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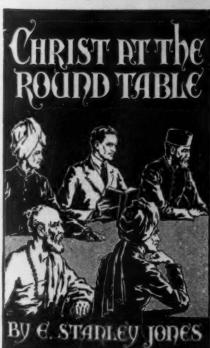
No. 20

A Different View of INDIA

CHRIST AT THE ROUND TABLE

By E. STANLEY JONES

Author of "The Christ of the Indian Road" (of which over 300,000 copies have been distributed)



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Once upon a time it meant something to us when the birds began to pipe up. Nobody sold books in the spring. Nobody bought books in the spring. Nobody had to stick around the office writing ads. Business used to be rotten, but a swell time was had by all at the golf links. Dear old Spring. 💠 💠 Those days are gone forever. This year we've got a flock of books just built for spring and summer reading—light stuff, delightful stuff bound to be popular as the balmy breezes. Tough on the salesmentough on the copy-writer—tough on the bookseller. No more week day golf in June and July . . . these books bring business back to December size. Somebody kill that bird while I tend to this customer. * On June 15th, for instance, we lead off with TWO FLIGHTS UP, by Mary Roberts Rinehart. This is a love story with just enough mystery, and all the people who read Tish and The Red Lamp and Lost Ecstasy are going to have many a big evening with it (\$2) . . . The roars of laughter, the gurgles of pleasure and the gasps of satisfaction hidden in THE AMATEUR CRIME, by A. B. Cox, will be released to the world at large on the same day. Our office has already been thrown into half a dozen hysterics by this hilarious and really harmless bedroom detective tale (\$2).. Then there's the second issue of THE WEEK-END LIBRARY, even bigger and better than last year's successful volume.

TWEET -

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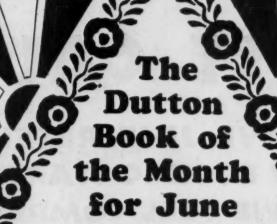
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The PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY

THE AMERICAN BOOK-TRADE JOURNAL

NEW YORK, MAY 19, 1928

Books for Graduation Gifts

Katharine Lee Bates

Professor Emeritus of English Literature, Wellesley College

OTHING can make graduation commonplace, -not the June heat nor the press of bewildered parents nor the herds of automobiles grazing on tar and gasoline, nor aching feet nor tumultuous alumni. Not the most hardened college official, striving to keep step in the erratic academic procession, whose rainbow hoods and tasselled caps he reads like a primer, can resist the appeal of those young faces in the serried ranks of graduates. Pale or flushed, grave or smiling, openly eager or pretending indifference, there is an intentness upon them all, a sense of significance, a crisis less of farewell than of going forth.

So momentous an event, this new birthday into the working life of the world, is fitly honored by a gift, tho it be but a single rose or a first razor. The money value is, with us, usually slight. Only a few of the diploma-waving host will receive tickets to Europe or letters of credit for a trip around the world. The English custom-or what was English custom in times when post-war taxes were not paring down even aristocratic incomes to the quick—of following the University course by a year or more of travel has not generally commended itself to a people in such a hurry to "get busy" as the household of Uncle Sam. The Commencement gift is often unpremeditated. A proud father, who has perhaps motored two thousand miles from his ranch or come

from his city office crashing thru the landscape on a lightning express, grows aware of a Christmas atmosphere. "Choose for yourself," he bids, checkbook in hand, braced for anything from a wristwatch to an aeroplane. The choices are various. Some thirty years ago, before the advent of the autos that have so utterly transformed the look and manners of our roads, when straining, sweating horses had to cope, in a college town, with the simultaneous tides of departing undergraduates and arriving visitors, a lavish daddy offered her choice to his shy wisp of a daughter. They were standing together at a window that overlooked an uphill avenue. One drooping nag after another, their coats blotched with foam, was hauling his overload up the sharp slope to the dormitory door. "Half of them are sick already," said the girl, "and there are three more days of people and trunks ahead. If I really may choose for myself, I want you to buy the very tiredest and wretchedest of them all and take him home to our barn and pasture to live in comfort all the rest of his days." And it was done.

But as Commencement presents have grown to be more and more the custom, they are less often hap-hazard. The givers would relate their gifts to the adventure. But how? The world has far outgone its wildest fairytales. What are seven-league boots or "sandals of swiftness" in view of The Spirit of St. Louis, which flies faster

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than feathered Mercury or magic carpet? What is a "sword of sharpness" to an electric ray? Beside modern weapons, Excalibur and Durandal are toys. The purse of Fortunatus would stir no flurry on Wall Street. But life is still romance, whose enchanted forests, Dark Towers and dragons "horrible and stern" await the Knight Adventurous. Was there ever a time when enterprises of such "pith and moment" challenged youth? The longsuffering nations of this our war-worn planet to be organized for peace; aspirations for social justice, clean politics, international amity, to be realized; a deeper insight and wiser sympathy brought to bear on problems of passion, crime, reformation; more humane and efficient measures devised for the protection of the helpless, animals, children, the crippled in body and mind,-there is everything to do. This tarnished star of ours, as fit for Paradise as any in the shining choirs, thrills each June with a fresh consciousness of its divine gold. Another brave young multitude, pledged to progressive dream and deed, is coming to its deliverance from evil. Beyond the fields of practical, mechanical, material achievement, what wide regions of science, beauty, spirit call the pioneer! What better gift for our champion, as he enters into "action glorious," than high ideals, basic principles, broad horizons, great examples?

What books are best for graduation

gifts?

As a rule, books not too elegantly bound, not too bulky and heavy, not even too exquisite for pocket and satchel, but books that can bear frequent reading indoors and out. "A book closed is a dumb teacher." "A volume in the bookcase and a guitar in the corner say nothing at all." In 1915, when the World War was desolating the homes of Europe, the Laureate of England compiled from the wealth of his notebooks "The Spirit Of Man: An Anthology in English and French from the Philosophers and Poets." In this thin volume, printed on India paper in such small compass that it could easily slip into a soldier's pocket, Mr. Bridges had stored up the chief jewels of his treasury,—sentences of radiant splendor from the mystics of India, the wandering saints of Persia, the Rabbis of Judaea, the thinkers of Athens and Rome

and Alexandria, the Fathers of the Church, the dreamers of Russia and France, and the English singers from Chaucer to Yeats, all bearing their various witness to the True and the Beautiful. This contribution of England's official poet to the fighting strength of the Allies went out in thousands upon thousands of copies to the trenches of France and Flanders, of the Balkans, Mesopotamia, India, while the call for it from those who waited and wept and worked at home was no less insistent than from the men who marched away. We are all, at one time or another, in one sense or another, on the firing line. If I were to give every member of a college graduating class the same volume, this would be my first choice, especially if it can still be obtained in an India paper edition. Other books of general acceptance are Palgrave's "Golden Treasury of Songs and Lyrics," Binyon's "Golden Treasury of Modern Lyrics," "The Oxford Book of English Verse," "The Oxford Book of Victorian Verse," "The Oxford Book of American Verse," and the compilation by R. F. Leavens entitled "Great Companions." For schools, there is no better introduction to the present poets of England than the little volume of lyrics called "Poems of To-Day," series of 1915. Among its lovely songs, setting young souls to music, are Binyon's "For the Belloc's "Courtesy," Fallen," Bridges' "Awake, my Heart, to be Loved," de la Mare's "Nod," Hodgson's "Time, You Old Gypsy-Man," Alice Meynell's "The Shepherdess," Newbolt's "He Fell among Thieves," Stevenson's "Requiem," Yeats' "Aedh Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven." This selection, made by the English Association, had sold its one hundred and seventy thousand by 1922, when a Second Series was issued, not so rich in sheer beauty but significant as expressing the courage and sacrifice of England's young soldier-poets. Other small books that may hopefully be given to boys and girls in quantity are pocket guides to acquaintance with the birds, trees, wild flowers, ferns, butterflies, frogs and all such fellow-tenants of what Nature tries her best to make a delightful planet. Other books with an appeal to both lads and "We," Commander Byrd's lassies are "Skyward," Kingslev's "Westward Ho."

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Neihardt's "Song of the Indian Wars," London's "The Call of the Wild," tho "Safari" and Meadowcroft's "Edison," "Roosevelt" perhaps Hagedorn's "Story of My Boyhood and Muir's Youth," possibly even Turley's "Voyages of Captain Scott," might miss-tho I doubt it—a measure of girlish appreciation. I remember many years ago the benignant editor of a popular juvenile opening under my awed gaze one labeled drawer after another, -Games, Handicrafts, Charades, Anecdotes, Verse and the like. The drawer marked "Stories for Boys" was running over full, while only seven meek manuscripts lay in the twin receptacle of "Stories for Girls." "You see," explained the editor, "girls will read their brothers' stories, but any real boy would rather go fishing than spend good daylight over 'Little Women.'" But that classic still holds its charm for girlhood, and the recently published lives of the two most famous of the Alcott sisters, Louisa and May, would be welcome gifts to the lovers of Jo and Amy. The "Life of Alice Freeman Palmer" has been and is in steady demand as a graduation gift for girls. The lovely personality of Josephine Preston Peabody, too, is now enshrined in a book of selections from her "Diary and Letters," which should be accompanied by the two volumes of her collected "Poems" and "Plays." The girl I knew best, however, liked the wildest books the most. As a freshman I chanced upon Morris' "Sigurd the Volsung" early one morning in the Wellesley library and, hiding away in a balcony alcove, I read on and on, curled up in a shadowy corner, thru class-bells and dinner-bell, until the glorious chant suddenly ceased, the Golden Sigurd and Brynhild the Fire-Maiden had achieved their destiny, and the enraptured reader found herself a tired, chilly, hungry evildoer, with no very pleasant interviews ahead.

This giving of the same book to all the members of a graduating class, except in cases where a special interest of authorship or subject inheres, must needs be a hit-ormiss procedure. If no two leaves in the forest, no two flakes of the snowstorm are

identical, how can we expect to find two minds equally responsive to any book whatsoever? Individual giving, too, has its uncertainties, but these are lessened as the donor takes into account special tastes and circumstances. For the prospective traveler, choice may range, according to age and route, from "Lorna Doone" to "Messer Marco Polo." For the young naturalist, any of the Thoreau books or those by Muir or Burroughs will win their welcome. The books by W. H. Hudson have a rare enchantment. An admirable introduction to these four and twenty volumes is Edward Garnett's "A Hudson Anthology." A father of portly purse might well equip son or daughter with the excellent Nature Library issued by Doubleday in a series of illustrated volumes. The lives of great men make appropriate graduation gifts, but the giver should be on his guard against the "debunking" biographies. From Plutarch on responsible biographers have treated their subjects with respect, as in Sandburg's "Abraham Lincoln" and Baker's "Woodrow Wilson." These two biographies, tho each has covered to date only the pre-presidential period of its hero's life, are among the few new books whose lasting value is assured, as is that of Lowes' "The Road to Xanadu" in the literary field. As a rule it is discreet to let Best Sellers simmer over the crackling fire of popular enthusiasm a year or so, for by the end of that time they may have boiled away.

After all, the best books for graduation gifts are the best books of the world, as for instance, to mention only a baker's dozen, the Bible, "Iliad," "Odyssey,' Plato's "Dialogues," "Divina Commedia," "Don Quixote," "Song of Roland," "Nibelungenlied," "Faust," "Canterbury Tales," "Fairy Queen," "Paradise Lost," "In Memoriam,"-a list that does not touch the far ranges of non-Jewish Oriental lore, nor the heights of drama,—Greek, Elizabethan, French, German, Spanish, Scandinavian,—nor name those prose masters and inspired lyrists whose songs, thoughts, visions, are part and parcel of our daily life. Even Everyman's Library, with its 612 titles to date, merely makes a beginning.

With a very little money you may enrich the young graduate with a book, as Shakespeare's "Sonnets" or Dante's "Vita Nuova," "in comparison with which" -to quote the passionate praise of an old

bishop-"silver is as clay and pure gold is as a little sand; at whose splendor the sun and moon are dark to look upon; compared with whose marvellous sweetness honey and manna are bitter to the taste."

What Age Novelists?

S. Fowler Wright

Author of "Deluge," Cosmopolitan Book Corporation

AVING commenced the writing of fiction when over fifty, and with some success (if success be measured by circulation), I am selected by the Publishers' Weekly as the man to discuss Branders Matthews' recent pronunciamento that a man should not produce works of this character till he be over forty-five.

As to that, my first thought is that it depends upon the novelist,—and the novel. As an affirmative proposition, it appears to me to be a piece of solemn nonsense, as

such generalizations usually are.

It is obvious that we augment our experiences as life continues, and our opportunities of observation increase, tho we may not use them. It is less certain that we gain in powers of expression or imagination. These faculties are developed by use rather than age, and (other factors being equal) I think a man of forty-five is more likely to write a good novel if he has written others in earlier years.

Then is it to be contended that he should regard the earlier works as exercises only, to be destroyed unpublished? Apart from economic difficulties, would any man retain his creative vitality thru twenty or thirty years of such abortive

production?

Beyond that, is it certain, or even probable, (and this question probes the heart of the problem) that the work of those earlier years would be of less value than that which should follow? It is true that we might esteem "Count Robert of Paris" more highly had its author destroyed his less mature efforts, such as "Ivanhoe," or "The Heart of Midlothian," but that is different from saying that it is a better book.

If such a proposition be worth discussion at all, we must define it more accurately. The word 'novel' is used to include so many varieties of composition, for which different qualifications are needed.

It has been said that any man can write one novel. I think this statement contains as much truth as can reasonably be expected in a single sentence. Certainly, this novel, projected from the personal experience of the writer, cannot be produced in the nursery. No genius of impatient youth could have written "Pendennis" or "David Copperfield.'

But these novels are of the nature of autobiography as it is most readily written by those who are already practiced in the art of fiction. Most novelists, even those who have continued their literary activities into later years, have done a proportion of their best work before the age in question, and surely this fact is conclusive

against any challenging theory.

. But I know this is all wrong. Having written a novel late in life, I ought to be ready with fifty reasons why it is the ideal period for that occupation. The fact is that I am cursed with the vice of impartiality, with a result that people of any strong opinion usually consider me to be prejudiced in their opponents' favor. When I talk to a doctor, I am liable to point out that the anti-vaccinators have a much stronger case than is ever likely to be published in the British Medical Journal; while I may annoy the anti-vaccinator by observing that the probability of contracting smallpox may be reduced by inoculation. I regard vivisection as devilish; but this does not prevent my recognizing that it has been of indirect assistance in the ekly

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study of the functions and diseases of the human brain.

Having this infirmitiy, I might be able to supply a score of equally good reasons on either side of the argument; but were I compelled to deliver a verdict, I should say that if a man be disposed to write a novel, he should do so at his present age. If its faults be the result of immaturity, he will be more likely to produce a good one later than if he had not made the earlier effort: if they be of a more positive kind, it should not have been written at

MR. WRIGHT was 53 years

uge" was published. Its success was

instantaneous; it has sold over 70,-

000 copies in America. Mr. Wright

arrived on the Celtic Monday for a

week's visit to this country to make

some final arrangements for the ap-

pearance of "Deluge" as a moving

picture. "The Island of Captain

Sparrow" will appear in July; and "Dawn," a sequel to "Deluge" will

be published next year. Arrange-

ments have been made for the trans-

lation of "Deluge" into German,

French, Norwegian, Swedish and

Dutch.

old when his first novel "Del-

all, irrespective of the age of its author. It is a mistake to suppose that those who are foolish in youth become wise in age. My observation is that they usually become sillier.

Such people should be able to write the tedious elaborations of pyschological trivialities which obtain some temporary circulation today at any age between twenty and eighty-five Only last week, I read about a third of such a book, which

had been warmly recommended to me for the "subtlety of its psycho-analysis." The whole of this verbiage was occupied with the supposed emotions of two people who were disposed to commit adultery, but who lacked courage either to fulfill or abandon the project. There was nothing in the hundred pages I read which could not have been stated more clearly in three paragraphs. If such people exist, (as they probably do), there is no necessity to write books about them. They need drowning.

The advantage of authors of this kind of drivel deferring it until they are forty-five is not that they will write it any better; it is that they may die in the interval.

viewer has been kind enough to say that "Deluge" was 'deeply pondered.' I am not clear that I am in the habit of pondering more deeply than in earlier years, but as

to "Deluge"—, well, after what I have said already, I may as well go the whole distance. I will explain exactly how that book came to be written.

I was at dinner one evening about a year ago, (or it may be eighteen months, I am always careless of dates), when conversation arose concerning certain novels then popular in England, the theme of which was the marooning of two or more people on a desert island, with 'romantic' consequences. I had not read these books,—I rarely read fiction of any kind,—but

I remarked that it was very improbable that there would be anything romantic in such a situation, tho there might be tragedy, as it would be almost certain that such derelicts would be unsympathetic to one another. opinion was received with disfavor, and I was challenged to write such a book as I thought it should be. With a rash complaisance, I undertook to do so.

But the worst has still to be told. When

still to be told. When I had written about half the book, it came under the eyes of the lady who had issued the challenge, and I was told that it wasn't a desert-island-tale at all, and that I had failed to fulfill the agreed conditions. I have never accepted this contention. admit that it was sheer mental indolence which had led me to provide islands on the spot, instead of arranging that my characters should voyage to find them, but I insisted that an island is an island, however produced At least, I ought to have insisted, but there are directions in which it is inadvisable, and so I started again, and "The Island of Captain Sparrow," (located in the Pacific ocean, which I was assured to be of the first importance,) was the result. If that book, (which is to be published in America in July) should also be condemned, I suppose I must try again; but I hope that it may not be necessary.

The Fifty Books of the Year

The Annual Exhibit Opens in New York at the Grolier Club, and in Duplicate at the Public Library

Was formally opened on Wednesday evening, May 16th, at the Grolier Club, New York, and the collection is now on public display in duplicate at the Grolier Club at 47 East 60th Street and in the main corridor of the New York Public Library. The jury of the American Institute of Graphic Arts for this year's show included David Silve and Frederic Warde, typographers, and Edward F. Stevens, director of the Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn. Robert Josephy prepared the catalog.

Since the inauguration of the "Fifty Book" shows five years ago there has been a rapid increase in America's interest in good bookmaking, and the announcement of the committee's selection is always awaited with interest by designers, publishers and book buyers. The Institute has always emphasized the fact that it does not ask its jury to select the best fifty books. There can be no exact "best," as it is impossible to make exact comparisons of one

THE BRONZE TREASURY

AN ANTHOLOGY OF 81 OBSCURE ENGLISH POSTS

Edited by Harry Kemp



New York

THE MACAULAY COMPANY

Robert S. Josephy's title-page for "The Bronze Treasury"

book with another, but to select fifty books, each one representing a successful solution of the problem set by the text and the conditions of publishing. This successful solution of bookmaking problems may be the accomplishment of a trade publisher, of a private press or a university press, and each book is judged on its own merits, but it must have good design, good presswork and general coordination of the elements of good manufacture.

CHINESE PAINTING

By JOHN C. FERGUSON



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS - CHICAGO

Title-page designed by Chester Crow for the University of Chicago Press eekly

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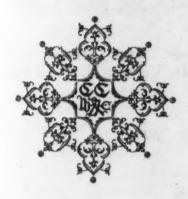
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The exhibit covers the books from March 1st to March 1st of each year. Over 500 volumes were submitted this year for the jury's consideration, and the volumes selected run the whole gamut of book format from the small 12mo to the folio. It is particularly interesting to see the strengthening of the showing of trade books. Thirty of them fall in this class, including the eight by the university presses of Harvard, Yale and Chicago. There are eleven books from private presses, eight printed for private distribution, and one book from the Metropolitan Museum.

The Institute has this year discontinued its earlier plan of awarding a gold medal

ANCIENT BOOKS AND MODERN DISCOVERIES

By Frederic G. Kenyon



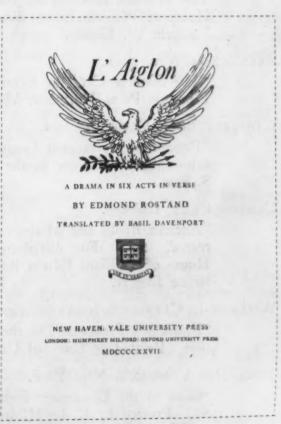
The Caxton Club: Chicago

A title-page by Bruce Rogers. This book was printed by Rudge

to any one book, as it has become difficult to select any one book for supreme mention. The selection of this year, however, includes outstanding product from men who have been previously honored by the Institute. There are five volumes designed by Bruce Rogers, three by D. B. Updike, three by Carl Purington Rollins, three by

Edwin Grabhorn, one by Frederic Goudy, the type designer. Other well-known names in the field of book design are Stanley Morison of England, who designed the book submitted by Doubleday, Doran, Vojtech Preissig, John Henry Nash, W. A. Kittredge, Elmer Adler, Henry Taylor, William Dana Orcutt, Arthur W. Rushmore and David Silve.

The listing of the book is under the name of the publisher who is responsible for the undertaking, but the catalog, prepared by Robert Josephy, which is widely distributed, records the name of the printer as well as of the designer. Of the books exhibited this year, six were printed at the press of William E. Rudge of Mt. Vernon, five at the Harvard University Press, four at E. L. Hildreth & Company, Brattleboro, four by the Plimpton Press, Norwood, three at the Merrymount Press, two each at Vail-Ballou, Binghamton, and the University of Chicago Press. Others represented include the University Press, Riverside Press, R. R. Donnelley & Sons, the Haddon Press, the Athenaeum Press, Country Life Press, Southworth & Company of Portland, the Plandome Press and the Harbor Press, New York.



Carl Purington Rollins' title-page for the Yale University Press's "L'Aiglon"

The opening meeting, at which the Institute members and speakers were guests at the club house of the Grolier Club, was presided over by Frederic Melcher, president of the American Institute of Graphic Arts, and the principal address was made by Carl Purington Rollins, Printer to Yale

University.

After the exhibit in New York the shows in duplicate go to about forty cities thruout the country. In each place there are arrangements for an opening meeting and an address, slides are provided to help the lecturer, and catalogs describing in full the books, their publishers, designers and prices are distributed. Copies of this catalog can couragement to the craft.

be obtained from Blanche Decker, secretary of the American Institute of Graphic Arts at 65 East 56th Street by any library, bookseller or collector of fine printing.

The intention of the Institute is not only to provide a chance for the designer to measure his success against the best work of other printers, but also to increase the general interest in fine printing by a nationwide display of the best examples. The increasing merit among publications made under the pressure of trade conditions shows the effect of this program, and the increased market for the finest work of American designers and presses gives en-

Fifty Books of the Year

Exhibitor

ARIES PRESS, Eden, N. Y.

"Verses," by G. K. Clark. \$3. Printed by Spencer Kellogg, Jr.

JOHN BARNARD ASSOCIATES, Cambridge, Mass.

John Barnard and His Associates. For distribution to members only. Printed by Harvard University Press. Designed by Bruce Rogers.

BOWLING GREEN PRESS, New York.

The World's Lincoln, by John Drinkwater. \$10. Printed by Printing House of William Edwin Rudge, Inc., Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Designed by Frederic W. Goudy.

BRENTANO'S, New York.

"The Siamese Cat," by Leon Underwood. Illustrated. \$3. Printed by Plimpton Press, Norwood, Mass.

CARTERET BOOK CLUB, Newark.

"Pageant of Newark-on-Trent," by L. H. Patterson. Illustrated. (Private subscription.) Printed by the Harbor Press, New York. Designed by John S. Fass.

CAXTON CLUB, Chicago.

"Ancient Books and Modern Discoveries," by Frederic G. Kenyon. Illus-For distribution to members only. Printed by Printing House of William Edwin Rudge, Inc., Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Designed by Bruce Rogers.

WILLIAM L. CLEMENTS LIBRARY, Ann Arbor, Mich.

"Franklin's Proposals For the Education of Youth." For private distribution. Printed by Harvard University Press. Designed by Bruce Rogers.

JOHN DAY COMPANY, New York.

"Book of the Gloucester Fishermen," by James B. Connolly. Illustrated. \$5. Printed by E. L. Hildreth & Co., Brattleboro, Vermont. Designed by Mary McRae McLucas. Illustrations, by Henry O'Connor. "Plan of Printing Instruction For Public Schools," by Henry H. Taylor. \$2. Printed by D. B. Updike, The Merrymount Press, Boston.

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The American Institute of Graphic Arts, which conducts the annual "50 Book" Show, has recently had its room refitted by Lucien Bernhard and the D. B. Updike exhibit is now on display

DODD, MEAD AND COMPANY, New York.

"Book of Princess Stories," compiled by Kathleen Adams and Frances Elizabeth Atchinson. Illustrated. \$2.50. Printed by Vail-Ballou Press, Binghamton, N. Y. Designed by Lois Lenski and Arthur M. Chase. Illustrations, by Lois Lenski.

Doubleday, Doran and Company, Garden City, New York.

"Marionettes Masks and Shadows," by Winifred H. Mills and Louise M. Dunn. Illustrated. \$3.50. Printed by Country Life Press, Garden City. Designed by Stanley Morrison. Illustrations by Corydon Bell.

CROSBY GAIGE, New York.

"The Heart's Journey," by Siegfried Sassoon. \$10. Printed by Printing House of William Edwin Rudge, Inc., Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Designed by Bruce Rogers.

GINN AND COMPANY, Boston.

"Elements of Machine Design," by James D. Hoffman, M.E., and Lynn A. Scipio, M.E. *Illustrated*. \$3.80. Printed by the Athenaeum Press, Cambridge. Designed by Ginn Technical Division.

GRABHORN PRESS, San Francisco.

"The Golden Touch," by Nathaniel Hawthorne. \$10. Printed by Edwin Grabhorn, San Francisco. Decorations by Valenti Angelo.

GROLIER CLUB, New York.

"Champ Fleury," by Geofrey Tory. (Translated by George B. Ives.) Illustrated. \$75. Printed by Printing House of William Edwin Rudge, Inc., Mt. Vernon, New York. Designed by Bruce Rogers.

HARPER & BROTHERS, New York.

"Jack Horner's Pie," selected by Lois Lenski. Illustrated. \$2.50. Printed by the Haddon Craftsmen, Camden, N. J. Designed by Arthur M. Rushmore. Illustrations, by Lois Lenski.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, Cambridge.

"Francesca Alexander," by Constance Grosvenor Alexander. Illustrated. \$7.50. Printed by Harvard University Press, Cambridge. Designed by David T. Pottinger.

"Tottel's Miscellany," edited by Hyder Edward Rollins. \$5. Printed by Harvard University Press. A line for line, page for page, copy of the original 1557 edition.

"Prunes and Prism With Other Odds and Ends," by Charles Hall Grandgent. \$7.50. Printed by Harvard University Press. Designed by David T. Pottinger.

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY, Boston.

"The Road to Xanadu," by John Livingston Lowes. Illustrated. \$6. Printed by the Riverside Press, Cambridge, Mass.

DARD HUNTER, Chillicothe, Ohio.

"Primitive Papermaking," by Dard Hunter. Illustrated. \$75. Printed by Dard Hunter.

MARSHALL JONES COMPANY, Boston.

"Ruined Abbeys of Great Britain," by Ralph Adams Cram. Illustrated. \$5. Printed by Plimpton Press, Norwood, Mass. Designed by A. Marshall Jones and William Dana Orcutt.

ALFRED A. KNOPF, Inc., New York.

"Balzac," by René Benjamin, translated by James Scanlon. Illustrated. \$5. Printed by Plimpton Press, Norwood, Mass. Designed by Vojtech Preissig. "Rustic Elegies," by Edith Sitwell. \$2.50. Printed by the Marchbanks Press, New York.

"Santander," by E. Allison Peers. Illustrated. \$2.50. Printed by the Plimpton Press, Norwood, Mass.

LANTERN PRESS, San Francisco.

"For Whispers and Chants," by Jake Zeitlin. \$8. Printed by Edwin Grabhorn.

LITTLE, BROWN & Co., Boston.

"Books and Bidders," by A. S. W. Rosenbach. Illustrated. \$6. Printed by the University Press, Cambridge, Mass. Designed by Miss Daisy Zanck.

MACAULAY COMPANY, New York.

"The Bronze Treasury," edited by Harry Kemp. Illustrated. \$3.50. Printed by J. J. Little & Ives Company, New York. Designed by Robert S. Josephy.

MACY-MASIUS, New York.

"The Horned Shepherd," by Edgar Jepson. Illustrated. \$5. Printed by the Plandome Press, New York. Designed by George Macy. Illustrations by Wilfrid Jones.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, New York. "Spanish Paintings." Illustrated. 25c.

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Henry Clay Frick

THE MAN

BY

GEORGE HARVEY

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New York & London
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1928

Title-page of Harvey's "Henry Clay Frick," printed by Rudge and published by Scribner JOHN HENRY NASH, San Francisco.

"The Unspoken and Other Poems," by Anne Bremer. For private distribution. Printed by John Henry Nash, San Francisco.

JOHN J. NEWBEGIN, San Francisco.

"Lower Oregon and Upper California," by Rev. Samuel C. Damon. \$15. Printed by Edwin Grabhorn, San Francisco. Decorations by Valenti Angelo.

OPEN COURT PUBLISHING Co., Chicago.

"Humanist Sermons," edited by
Curtis W. Reese. \$2.50. Printed
R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company, Chicago. Designed by W.

PETER PAUPER PRESS, Larchmont, N. Y.

"With Petrarch," by John M.
Synge. \$2.50. Printed by Peter
Beilenson, Larchmont, N. Y.

A. Kittredge.

PYNSON PRINTERS, INC., New York.

"Quarto Club Papers." \$10.
Printed by Pynson Printers, Inc.,
New York. Designed by Elmer
Adler.

WILLIAM EDWIN RUDGE, Inc., New York
"Glass," by G. A. Eisen, assisted
by Fahim Kouchakji. Illustrated.
\$125 (set of 2 vols.) Printed by
Printing House of William Ed-

win Rudge, Inc., Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Designed by Walter M. Patterson.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, New York.

"Occasional Verses," by Robert Grant. \$2. Printed by D. B. Updike, The Merrymount Press, Boston.

"Henry Clay Frick, the Man," by George Harvey. Illustrated. \$5. Printed by Printing House of William Edwin Rudge, Inc., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

TAYLOR & TAYLOR, San Francisco.

"Ramblings in Rhyme," by Kate B. Palmer. For private distribution. Printed by Taylor & Taylor, San Francisco.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, Chicago.

"Chineses Paintings," by John C. Ferguson. Illustrated. \$12.50. Printed by the University of Chicago Press. Cover and title designed by Chester Crow.

"New Essays by Oliver Goldsmith," Collected and edited by Ronald S. Crane. \$3. Printed by the University of Chicago Press. Cover, title, etc., designed by Electra Papadopoulos.

D. B. UPDIKE, THE MERRYMOUNT PRESS, Boston.

"Arnold Green," by Frances M. G. Wayland. Illustrated. 175 copies for private distribution. Printed by D. B. Updike, The Merrymount Press, Boston.

"The Higher Citizenship," by Alfred L. Baker. For private distribution. Printed by D. B. Updike, The Merrymount Press, Boston.

HAROLD VINAL, Ltd., New York.

"Leaven for Loaves," by Frederick Herbert Adler. \$2. Printed by Vail-Ballou Press, Binghamton, N. Y. Designed by Robert S. Josephy.

WAYSIDE PRESS, Topsfield, Mass.

"Arts and Crafts in New England," by George Francis Dow. Illustrated. \$5. Printed by the Southworth Press, Portland, Maine. Designed by George Francis Dow.

E. WEYHE, New York.

"Adolphe Lewisohn Collection of Modern French Paintings and Sculptures." Essay and Notes by Stephen Bourgeois. *Illus*trated. \$7.50. Printed by the Spiral Press, New York.

YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS, New Haven.

"L'Aiglon," by Edmond Rostand, translated by Basil Davenport. \$3. Printed by E. L. Hildreth & Company, Brattleboro, Vermont. Designed by Carl Purington Rollins.

"China and the Occident," by George Nye Steiger. \$3.50. Printed by E. L. Hildreth & Company, Brattleboro, Vt. Designed by Carl Purington Rollins.

"Italian Primitives at Yale University," by Richard Offner. Illustrated. \$12. Printed by E. L. Hildreth & Company, Brattleboro, Vt. Designed by Carl Purington Rollins.

Young & McCallister, Los Angeles.

"History of Warner's Ranch and Its Environs," by Joseph J. Hill. Illustrated. For private destribution. Printed by Young & McCallister, Los Angeles. Designed by Bruce McCallister. Original etchings by Loren Barton.

OCCASIONAL VERSES

1873-1923

BY
ROBERT GRANT



NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1927

Callister, Los Angeles. Designed by Bruce McCallister. Original etchings by Loren Barton.

D. B. Updike's title-page for "Occasional Verses" which was printed at the Merrymount Press for Scribner's

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Women in Publishing

Rowe Wright

III

Blanche W. Knopf

TE give away the length of our residence in New York by being able to remember the Fifth Avenue shops when they were down town. If you can remember when Lord and Taylor's was on Twenty-first Street, you are an

old timer indeed. For the land as well as the age of innocence used to be below Twenty-third Street. But times have changed. To be smart, shops as well as skirts had gradually to move up,—as if, after all, there were something in the German symbolism of the theater, that ascent up a stairway or an inclined plane marks progress to something higher. Even Fifth Avenue, you know, slopes towards Fifty-seventh Street, topographically.

So it has been with books, with their makers and sellers and even with their authors. The days of the haunted bookshops in dingy basements or under stairs are gone, and we visit Pratt's on Sixth Avenue or Leary's in Philadelphia in the same way that we go pilgrimaging to an unchanged German restaurant.

At some time, I suppose it was when somber clothing and somber rules of living came in, and we might just as well blame the Puritan for it as anyone, books got made into somber things. Printing began by

being gorgeous stuff,—even the first English books, if I remember the treasures of the Bodleian correctly, were rich, decorative affairs. Then somehow, they became mouselike, forbidding, with ugly brown and red cloth covers which made your

> fingers uncomfortable and with uglier paper and type within.

And then one glorious day, tossed aside our black umbrellas and defied the elements with gay colors, and in the revolution that followed, books became colorful and

All of which is

irrelevant except to introduce a courageous and delightful woman, who with her husband decided that it was not sacrilege to put up belle lettres in gay and attractive packages, the young



Blanche Knopf

woman who has been in large part responsible for getting books, along with silver pheasants and Dunhill lighters and hats and churches, up on the Fifty-seventh Street plane of progress; in other words who has made the delight of beautiful and interesting books fashionable as well as profitable.

It seems only fair now to begin talking about Blanche W. Knopf, vice President of the firm of Alfred A. Knopf, Publishers.

It is impossible to discuss Blanche Knopf as a publisher or a woman without talking about her setting, for the setting one consciously puts himself into, is, like his clothes, a great deal more a part of him than just sticks of furniture or yards of And if one still has hazy patterns cloth. of dinginess and dust and pine tables and of shelves spilling over their scrubby-looking manuscripts into bulging waste baskets, a shock, and a delightful one, awaits him when he is shown into the room where Blanche Knopf does her work. For there isn't anything office-like about the davenport before the chateau fireplace in the corner, nor about the easy chairs, nor the shelves of books, nor the soft rug.

We ought to be allowed to be alone in a room for a minute or two, to walk about, to try a couple of the chairs, to look at the pictures and bibelots, and to turn the pages of one of the books lying around before we have to meet the person who belongs to the room. I felt that way about Blanche Knopf's office and about her, getting them both at once as I did. For to be shown into a delightful home library instead of into a mahogany filing-case office, and to meet a woman publisher who is smartly dressed and young and good to look at, and who is witty and talks about music and dogs and children as simply as if she were not in the least responsible for many times a five foot shelf of books, is almost too good to be true.

But to appreciate Blanche Knopf's part in the firm of Alfred A. Knopf, one has to go back to the beginnings of the business.

Twelve years ago, Alfred A. Knopf, who had been employed as a clerk by Doubleday Page and Co., and later been associated with Mitchell Kennerley decided to start a publishing house of his own. Blanche Wolf, (a few month after the new firm was started, Blanche Knopf) was also interested in books—in belle lettres, in history, in biography, and she joined Mr. Knopf in his plans and dreams for publishing. Alfred Knopf had an idea, an idea that persisted and completely took hold both of himself and Blanche Wolf. idea was this: that there was a place in America for a publishing house that dared to do two things: first, to publish the writings of young Americans of talent, and

second, to publish translations of Russian classics. And with very small capital, Mr. Knopf went about to make this idea a permanent reality. In the beginning, it was not easy to find works by young Americans with talent; they went to publishers already established—and so these practical idealists turned to Russia to make come true the second part of their idea, that of making available in English some of the store of excellent Russian literature. Such a plan was rare twelve years ago,

But Blanche and Alfred Knopf had another idea and ideal, and that was to make only distinctive books—books in gay and colorful bindings, books with interesting and beautiful types. And so these two young people scoured the world for interesting papers and cloths for bindings; they ransacked not only the paper-makers' shops of Italy, Germany and France, but also the libraries and print shops of these countries to discover the old and beautiful types which had been forgotten for so long, so that the books which the House of Knopf was making would be distinctive in their material features as well as in contents.

The charm of the Borzoi books was catching, and the Knopf idea of putting books up attractively spread so that to-day, most publishers are manufacturing attractive and colorful books. An interesting anecdote is told which bears out this statement. On one occasion, the binder called Blanche Knopf and said, "I have an order here to bind a book; all the directions I have are to put a Borzoi binding on it. What shall I do?" "Go ahead. That is all right," Mrs. Knopf answered. And so the Knopf idea for the Borzoi books became a recognized pattern for beautiful books by all bookmakers.

It is typical of Alfred and Blanche Knopf that they were not content to start a vogue for colorful books; they believed in high standards of workmanship and materials, and they kept steadily on until as Mrs. Knopf says, "The Borzoi Books represent to-day, the best possible paper, type, binding, and workmanship for the price."

It is difficult to distinguish Blanche Knopf's part from Alfred Knopf's in their mutual idea, more so to differentiate which part each played in the building up of the business, in the making of their

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books. In the pioneer days, the creative part was Mr. Knopf's entirely. Mrs. Knopf, to use her own words, did "the dirty work." They started with one secretary and a bookkeeper—that meant that Mrs. Knopf, besides helping to decide on the acceptance or rejection of a manuscript, watched over the manufacture of the books, even helped to pack and deliver them.

Nor did Blanche Knopf find all her part, that of a woman publisher, a member of a firm, a bed of roses. There were obstacles in those early days, when it was unheard of that women should hold any but minor positions in publishing houses. There were foreign publishers to convince of her ability and integrity; and there were the women in the office—women with their inexplicable inability to work for and under one another.

But as more and more Borzoi books were being published, the mechanical end of the work was delegated to someone else, and Blanche Knopf spent increasingly more time in making editorial contacts. here again, we discover her genius. After all, there is little point in being in the publishing business if one has nothing to publish. And writers are strange people, full of temperament and all that that implies. A manuscript often has to have changes made in it—the author's pet lines have to be deleted or the ending rewritten. The publisher with his objective and all-seeing eye has to recommend the changes. And very often the author goes away to another less exacting publisher, furious; sometimes he goes to his apartment or attic room to begin rewriting humbly. The genius of Blanche Knopf as a woman and a diplomat is responsible in many cases for manuscripts coming back to the firm of Alfred A. Knopf not only improved, but often perfected.

One distinctive Knopf way of keeping old authors and securing new authors of talent for their list has been by printing writing of exceptional ability not only in good looking volumes but also in limited editions. No publisher has lost an author thru dignifying his best writings by printing them in beautiful and limited editions.

During those growing years of the business, Blanche Knopf had her hand on the advertising. She says that she did nothing

unusual along this line. Be that as it may, the Borzoi books, in an incredibly short time were known far and wide. Not only did Mrs. Knopf help to accomplish this, but she was largely responsible for the public having discovered the Borzoi authors and for those authors having discovered their publics.

Perhaps the greatest test for all people of big ideas is to keep that original idea dominant when it has grown to such proportions that a large organization is necessary to carry it out. And Blanche and Albert Knopf have been most successful in keeping the distinctive quality of their publishing in spite of the prosperity their house is enjoying. It is not an easy thing to keep the personal touch in a business which must be organized into many departments which employ many people. And it has fallen to the lot of Mrs. Knopf to take the executive part of keeping in close contact with all the departments, of coordinating all the demands of the present, both made outside and inside of the organization, so that the original ideals have not for a minute been lost sight of.

All this Blanche Knopf does and at the same time continues with the editorial end of the work. This in itself has grown with the reputation of the firm. Vociferous reading—the reading of everything printed, books, short stories, articles—for a publisher must know of everyone who is writing, must make his or her decisions as to the writers of ability. It is a large part of Mrs. Knopf's work also to make the editorial contacts, that is by meeting authors, meeting people of all interests, to keep her finger on the pulse of the creating world. And the graciousness and charm and intelligence of Mrs. Knopf have made her eminently successful in these manifold and exacting demands of her work.

Blanche Knopf is interested in new ideas, other than books; she is especially interested in the new ideas and the work of the women in other professions. She speaks very feelingly of what single track minds women in business acquire; she wants to know what women are doing in England, in America, everywhere. She has little patience for the time clock sort of business women who slams down her desk when the clock strikes and puts on a new personality for the evening. Mrs. Knopf

is interested in books and she is therefore interested in people and the things they are doing.

Next to books, her great passion is music. You can always find her at Symphony concerts. And she is interested in horses and dogs and fox hunting. Of course there is her home, a place which has acquired its charm not from an interior decorator's wand, but from Mrs. Knopf's selection and arrangement of things of beauty. And there is a small son of ten years, of whom she is very proud, and who is just now interested in his music and

when I was in college, we who loved books were considered queer. Now, they tell me, things are different. A youngster isn't thought much of unless he knows Proust and Cabell. Somebody has been making books and the love of books popular. I suspect the makers of books, and especially those spirits who have had and are having the courage to print what young authors and new authors are writing in their own vernacular and in translation, and who believe in the beauty of the container as well as of the contained.

Booksellers in Convention

A Brief Report of the A. B. A. Convention

AT the twenty-eighth annual convention of the American Booksellers' Association Arthur Brentano, Jr. was elected president for the ensuing year on the retirement of John G. Kidd after two years' service in the leadership of the work. The new officers are:

President, Arthur Brentano, Jr., Brentano's, New York

1st Vice President, Geo. W. Jacobs, Geo. W. Jacobs & Co., Philadelphia

2nd Vice President, Christopher G. Grauer, Otto Ulbrich Co., Buffalo

3rd Vice President, Veronica Hutchinson, Halle Bros., Cleveland

Board of Trade for One Year Allan Pitman, Boston A. A. Kroch, Chicago

For Three Years
John G. Kidd, Cincinnati
Simon L. Nye, Washington
Ralph Wilson, New York
Richard F. Fuller, Boston
Theo. E. Schulte, New York

Alternates
J. W. Clinger, Philadelphia
John Loos, New York
Roger Johnson, Springfield, Mass.

There was an attendance of 300 and the big Hotel Ambassador gave ample accommodations for the general and group meetings, and the city provided unusual opportunity for diversion and recreation. The plan of the Program Committee,

headed by George W. Jacobs, was to have the general problems of book merchandising discussed by leaders in the field of business education and to have these same subjects then taken up in practical detail in group discussion, and Tuesday morning merchandising was discussed by Dr. Norris A. Brisco of the New York University School of Retailing and Accounting, and finance was very carefully analyzed by Professor James Dohr of the School of Particularly interesting to the Business. general session was the talk on advertising by Howard W. Dickinson, leader in the advertising field and former Vice President of the George Batten Company. Supplementing the general talk was a very carefully prepared paper on "The Bookseller's Problem of Buying" by Joseph A. Margolies of Brentano's, New York.

The whole day of Wednesday was given

The whole day of Wednesday was given up to group meetings which were well attended, and the College Bookstore Association had its own gathering with committee reports, suggestions, etc., and an important address by Dr. George Parker Winship, librarian of the Harry E. Widener Library of Harvard. There were 60 members of this group out of a membership of 100, delegates having come from as far distant places as Eugene, Ore., and Salt Lake City. The Religious Bookstore group also brought together a very representative assembly, and Joseph V. Pilkington of the Cokesbury Press, Nashville, had planned the program for discus-

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Other gatherings were the Large City Bookstores, with Richard Fuller of the Old Corner Bookstore as chairman, Eugene Herr of Lancaster taking charge of the Small Town Bookstore Group in their discussion, and Frank L. Magel of the Syndicate Trading Company the Department Store Group.

The most important subject of discussion in the corridors and the halls was the question of the Literary Guild and its relation to bookselling, also the proposal for an A. B. A. retail store campaign with a promotion of bookshopping and the organization of a monthly book club with subscriptions from the bookstores. The feeling on the subject of price maintenace and the Guild was extremely tense, and the decision of the convention was finally embodied in a compromise plan presented at

the business session on Thursday. The plan for an A. B. A. book promotion campaign was discussed at great length in the round table of the Large City Group and also at a similar round table for the Smaller Cities, and in that informal discussion the first mentioned group seemed to be in favor of the project and the latter almost unanimously against it. At the general business session on Thursday the plan, which was described in the Publishers' Weekly of May 5th, was approved and carried forward by the Executive Committee. Another plan which was first proposed by W. S. Thompson, in charge of general publicity and mail-order sales at G. P. Putnam's Sons, was not directly approved by the general meeting, but was referred to the Executive Committee for decision and action. This plan proposes the gathering together in a central point in New York of the mailing lists of different bookstores, these mailing lists to be used only on the O. K. of their owners, but it is expected that by having them in a central office general mailing of catalogs and advertising matter could be greatly

expedited. The reports of the officers were given at the opening session Monday at two o'clock and will be printed in full in the next number of the Publishers' Weekly. Mr. Kidd emphasized the great growth in bookselling and book consumption thruout the country, the function of the Association in defense against price-cutting, and pointed to a program of objectives for the Association, to

include further effort to increase reading, the maintenance of prices, bookselling education, and the development of the Clearing House. Stanley Remington, the treasurer, showed the Association in sound financial condition, with over seven hundred members, and reported the treasury as having handled \$37,000 in a year, of which \$10,500 was in the Clearing House department and \$6,500 in the warehouse business. He reported that 135 firms were using the Clearing House, and it was estimated that there was a saving over other methods of from 20% to 25%. Meyers, the executive secretary, reviewed the work of the A. B. A. headquarters with its Clearing House, warehouse, and also the work of the office in endeavoring to carry out the suggestions of last year's convention, especially in the line of main-Arthur Brentano, Jr. retained prices. ported an arduous year in the Board of Trade, spoke of the need of a resolution backing up the publishers in their work on postal rates. Marion Humble of the National Association of Book Publishers described the newer developments in the Association's efforts to increase bookselling and its arduous work in postal legislation. She was followed by Mr. Cecil, who has been in charge of the Lecture Bureau work of the National Association of Book Publishers and who gave the booksellers an idea of what it meant to travel for months in the interest of promotion, to visit 90 different cities and plan the various conferences, promotion and work of that kind.

The papers and discussions were worth the careful attention of those present, and the reading of those who were unable to be there. The convention was favored with beautiful weather. Again the Get-Together Dance was a feature, coming on There was a constant Monday night. stream of parties to the golf course. Tuesday evening there was a bridge tournament with dancing, Wednesday evening a gathering for exhibition swimming, followed by dancing, and the banquet was admirably

served by the Ambassador.

At the annual banquet a very beautiful Gruen pentagonal watch was presented to President Kidd as an expression of appreciation and regard from members of the Association, and a gold pen was given to Howard W. Jacobs for his arduous work in organizing the entertainment events.

THE Publishers' Weekly. The American BOOK TRADE TOURNAL

Founded by F. Leypoldt

EDITORS

R. R. BOWKER F. G. MELCHER

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May 19, 1928

I HOLD every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves, by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereunto.

—BACON.

Change of Guild Situation Possible

THE booksellers' convention, which ended its four-day session at Atlantic City on Thursday, was intense in its discussion of the Literary Guild and its attack on bookshops. A change in its advertising and publicity is considered vital to the continuing development of book distribution. Out of the exchange of ideas, which had been preceded by preliminary discussions in New York on Saturday last, came a proposal whose details are not yet announced but which, it is hoped, will prove satisfactory to booksellers, publishers and the Guild. The plan will be gone over by counsel before final publication, but it was sponsored before the business session of the convention by a joint committee, including Frank Magel of the Syndicate Trading Company, Richard F. Fuller of the Old Corner Book Store, Harry Korner of Korner & Wood, Stanley Rinehart of Doubleday, Doran & Company, Benjamin H. Ticknor of Houghton Mifflin Company, John G. Kidd, president of the American Booksellers' Association, the committee having talked the matter over with Harold K. Guinzburg, director of the Literary Guild, who had come from New York to present a new selling program:

A proposal unanimously sponsored by

such a representative committee would be likely to be generally acceptable to the booktrade. Their report was endorsed in principle by the Board of Trade.

The Value of the Dollar Today

HE dollar today has a purchasing value of 62.1c as compared to the historic dollar of pre-war days, July, 1914. In 1920 the dollar, according to the survey which the National Industrial Conference Board makes, was worth 48.9c. This was its lowest ebb. The lowering cost of food with a slight change in rent has helped produce this increase in the dollar's purchasing power. The book buyer's dollar lost its value much more gradually than the dollar used in purchasing in other fields and only reluctantly accepted the general law of averages which were apparently unescapable. With the dollar at a 62c. value, merchandise that used to sell before the war for \$1.50 must sell for about \$2.50 and merchandise that sold for \$3 must sell for \$5. The old 50c. reprint, because of increased circulation, betters this average, and the 75c. reprint is really a better looking book than the old 50c. volume. In the field of the \$1 reprints the decline of the dollar has been almost completely discounted and, as has been previously pointed out in the Publishers' Weekly, there are series of reprints in which the dollar today will buy even more than the pre-war dollar.

English Booktrade Studies Its Problems

LITTLE over a year ago the two English booktrade associations, that of the publishers and that of the booksellers, came into new consultation about the state of the booktrade and the possibility of stimulating the demand for books, and as the result of these conferences there was appointed a joint committee to report on outstanding trade problems. This joint committee included twelve members from each group, with G. B. Bowes, the well-known bookseller from Cambridge acting as chairman; Godfrey S. Williams, the publisher, vice chairman, and very representative men including all types of publishers and booksellers. They were to consider and report to kly

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their respective executives on the possibility of greater cooperation between the two associations for the purpose of improving the organizations of the trade. Feeling that it was essential to study present practices before embarking on recommendations, this joint committee at its first meeting set up a subcommittee to make a critical survey of existing practices in the British booktrade with power to call evidence. This committee divided itself to study three main issues: First, the problem of getting orders from the public; second, filling those orders; third, trade organization and practices. The report on these three subjects has been printed for the groups involved, and, with their permission, The Publishers' Weekly will reprint it in full in three successive issues beginning with June 2nd. This study of trade conditions is particularly significant, as it shows the increase of cooperative enterprise in the English booktrade and its intention to build for greater efficiency and effectiveness. This report follows the work of the similar joint committee organized by the Society of Bookmen which went abroad in a previous year to study book distributing systems in Holland and Germany.

Our Modern Inventions

SPEAKER at the Metropolitan Museum on modern art in industry spoke of the department store as the flowering of today's period of art and industrial production. It is interesting, then, to find in the same day's newspaper, the result of excavations in Rome which show that that ancient capital was familiar with the department store centuries ago. The building excavated appears to have been the equivalent of a modern skyscraper with rows of shops, one above the other, nine stories in all. There were no elevators, to be sure, but staircases and galleries connecting the different levels. It is not unlikely that they had their own advertising campaigns and modern art exhibits such as are carried on in the great institutions of today.

It is interesting also to note that the same speaker, Louis Schoen, emphasized the tendency of department stores to eliminate special sales. He said that the younger men in the business who were building up the modern institutions be-

lieved in giving good merchandise at a fair mark-up. Some stores have put a ban altogether on seasonal sales and are trying to put their emphasis on careful buying and sound dispensing methods. Particularly did he stress the fact that there was an increasing emphasis in department stores on good taste in merchandise, and not only in merchandise but in the setting for its display and sale. "In a machine age," said the speaker, "we must look to the machine for the production of beauty, and industry is now asking for the help of the artist."

Bookstore Arrangement and Equipment

A PAMPHLET outlining the principles of successful bookstore arrangement and describing plans adapted to various types of shops has been issued by the National Association of Book Publishers. It was written by Katherine Way of the Association staff. Photographs of bookshop interiors and shop fronts, three detailed floor plans, and drawings of standard shelving, tables, display counters and filing equipment, are included in the pamphlet. Order from the National Association of Book Publishers, 25 West 33rd Street, New York.

Church Book Promotion

Church of Kenosha, Wis., whose pastor, Rev. Edward Burns Martin, has always taken such a constructive interest in books and their distribution, has just printed its Spring Bulletin with the pastor's observations on half a year's reading. The expense of printing this 16-page list has been borne by Hansen's Bookshop and other friends of the church. Dr. Martin succeeds in making books of all kinds extremely attractive and human, and he includes biography, problems of the day, the best fiction and poetry as well as books on philosophy and religion.

Special Rare Book Department in this issue page 2060

Mechanical Music Bill

Vestal of the House Committee on Patents introduced Bill Number H. R. 13452, which outlines a plan for giving protection to the composer of music in the field of mechanical reproduction. This has been a very complicated problem in copyright progress, and, if the features of this bill are agreed on by both composers and users of music in the mechanical field, it will help to smooth the way for the general copyright bill and entrance of the United States into the International Copyright Union.

When the American Copyright Code was revised in 1909, mechanical music was just coming to the front, and, when it was proposed to give the composer his protection in this field a protest was made that this would lead to a monopoly and would build up the business of one maker of discs or piano records at the expense of others. For that reason a clause was put into Section I (3) which provided that, whenever the owner of a music copyright permitted one manufacturer of discs or records to use the material, other persons could make similar use on paying a royalty of 2c on each roll or disc manufactured. There have always been some doubts as to the constitutionality of this provision, first, because the Constitution specifies that Congress shall only have the power to grant "exclusive rights" to authors, and protection with a compulsory license is not an exclusive control of a property; second, specification of a particular fee was price fixing of a new kind. The law, however, has never been questioned in a court case, and all composers, the famous, the fair, and the faulty, have received the same 2c. fee for their product from the phonograph houses and the piano players.

The mechanical music interests would protest very strongly against any bill that gave the composer complete right of bargaining this sale of his music, but they have expressed willingness to compromise in a way that this bill suggests, a compromise proposed by Chairman Vestal.

Its main feature is that the composer has the right of bargaining on his first contract; that is, the composer does not have his fee fixed at 2c. Many composers will get more, some may get less, but they do not have to give up the right without contract. Once having given a contract to one proprietor, however, this agreement must be filed at the Copyright Office, and any other person may make like use on the same condition. This is a fair proposal for the composer and ought to bring about satisfactory agreement and ultimate passage, and then its wording, which has been apparently carefully evolved, will be included in the important bill.

\$2,000 Juvenile Fiction Competition

A PRIZE of \$2,000 is being offered by Longmans, Green and Co., of New York, for the best original unpublished story in English suitable for boys or girls from twelve to sixteen. The story should be not less than 50,000 nor more than 60,000 words and the manuscript must be submitted before December 31, 1928. The prize of \$2,000, which will be awarded as soon after the closing date as possible, will be paid in addition to a royalty of 10 per cent. Stress is being laid on the publicity the winning story will receive.

The judges will be Dorothy Canfield Fisher, May Lamberton Becker and Padraic Colum. Any further information may be had from the Contest Editor, Children's Book Department, Longmans, Green & Co., 55 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

International Press Exhibit at Cologne, Summer of 1928

A MERICAN exhibits in the International Press Exhibit to be held in Cologne this summer will be found in a wing of one of the main buildings, "The House of Nations."

The exposition, while placing particular emphasis on newspaper making, will also have departments devoted to publishing, advertising, the graphic arts, and bookselling. These latter departments should be of considerable interest to American members of the booktrade who may be vacationing or traveling in Europe this summer, and who are in a position to arrange a visit to the exposition. The exhibit of examples of fine bookmaking is expected to draw especial attention.

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350 Rental Libraries

The Chain System As Developed in Massachusetts

William E. Harris

OR a long time it has appeared in-H evitable that sooner or later the chain system of merchandizing would be applied in one way or another to the retail distribution of books. Already the development of branch stores is beginning to be accomplished on an extensive scale. Real chain operation, however, began much earlier, nearly fifteen years ago. But until very recently the booktrade as a whole has remained almost completely unaware of its rapid growth, even of its existence. In greater Boston, the multiple lending library system has taken such firm hold that to-day there are half a dozen or more well-organized circuits. Several of these have begun to spread out in all directions, including the western portions of the state. So swiftly has this new development in the distribution of books to an immense reading public occurred, that even its leaders are beginning to watch with alarm the overnight progress and to feel the need of rendering certain the application of sound business principles.

Probably the most important library system in the greater Boston field to-day is the Associated Book Sales Company. The consolidation of three smaller chains the Federal, the Community and the New England-have been the means of creating it. While the details of reorganization have not as yet been entirely perfected, some idea of the new company may be gained from realizing that it consists of more than three hundred and fifty separate neighborhood libraries. Each of these started with a minimum of a hundred books, and many have since been increased, depending upon the average number of weekly rentals. One or two of the units represented stand in busy centers of Boston, such as the new Park Square Building. On the whole, however, because of the difficulties of parking, the time required to attend to these stands renders them unprofitable. The majority of the units, therefore, are

scattered thru outlying suburbs. One of the three original systems extended to Haverhill, fifty miles north of Boston, but embraced at the same time considerable territory to the south of the capitol as well. One of the advantages, aside from purchasing power, is that it enables routes to be straightened out. The system at present keeps three men busy six days a week, making collections and distributing new books. E. K. Rockwell of the old Federal circuit and his two partners have found no difficulty in paralleling the field of the free public library. Indeed, to-day, the annual purchasing power of the Associated Book Sales Company represents a sum that a large city bookstore would consider a handsome gross business.

Curiously enough Mr. Rockwell has only been interested in books for about ten years. Returning from the World War, he found his restaurant business, owing to certain special conditions, no longer profitable. He decided at once to start a chain of libraries, since his brother had been successfully engaged in that undertaking prior to the war. Today, one of Mr. Rockwell's partners is the man who bought out his brother. Between them they have evolved a project which if carried out to the limits they now visualize, should do much to stimulate the general sale of books.

The principle of the chain lending library is very simple. The Associated Book Sales Company agrees to install a library in any store that makes a request for one. Mr. Rockwell no longer solicits new stands for the satisfactory reason that customers of his "in town" libraries are recommending him to an increasing number of store-keepers near their homes. But he also feels that a store owner who asks for a library, will prove a better librarian than one who has the books thrust upon him. The Associated makes no initial charge for its libraries, nor does it require a deposit from the

reader. The latter merely pays two, three or five cents per day, and the storekeeper deducts a certain percentage. It is his duty to keep the records and have his collections ready twice a month. The Associated finds that as it succeeds in cutting the red tape involved, it not only increases its readers, but the interest of its librarians as well. The varying rental charges are explained by the fact that the older stores retain the original figure of nearly twenty years ago, while newly opened stands commence with a charge of three cents. The class of readers provided for also determines on rare occasions the sum. The five cent charge is only made on "special attractions," such as "The Story of Philosophy," "Trader Horn" or other equally expensive books. It is an interesting commentary upon the quality of the readers of lending libraries that books of this type find their way into the shelves quite frequently today.

The Associated asks for no deposit, because it feels that the storekeeper gives his customers credit in general trade. He cannot, therefore, ask his friends to accept a security charge on books. The problem, however, of lost books is an increasingly alarming one. The Boston Public Library recently announced an annual loss of more than twelve thousand books. Proportionately the Associated's loss is as high.

The benefits accruing for those with whom a library system does business Mr. Rockwell views from at least two angles, that of the storekeeper and that of the publisher. The lending library he believes to be the greatest single medium for word-of-mouth praise or criticism of a book. Literally scores of men, women and children read every book for one who buys it. Particularly is this so in the case of popular fiction. By bringing these readers into a neighborhood store, a system like the Associated stimulates general trade for the owner. Sooner or later the reader of books begins to buy his candy, cigarettes or drugs at that store. A library will not make a store-keeper's fortune, but it will bring trade within his reach. At the same time it will, like the penny scales, net him a minimum commission of about five to ten dollars a week in a small store. Much, of course, depends upon the manner in which the proprietor is willing to push a library,

as well as the size of his potential reading public. Mr. Rockwell states that in the majority of instances libraries are given up because the store itself is being given up and not thru any dissatisfaction or lack of

profit.

For the publisher, on the other hand, the library not only affords advertising, but it also forms a means of disposing of many old books and of stimulating best sellers that have commenced to lag. In the past publishers have sometimes quite frankly disposed of remainders at low prices, either directly or indirectly. The lending library opens a field in which the publisher may readily "sell out" and yet not embarrass the retail distributor, who has stocked at higher levels. At this point it should, perhaps, be explained that a library system's average cost per book may be cut very low. Hitherto, the Associated for example has been buying chiefly from jobbers, intermixing new titles with rebinds and popular reprints. Now, however, Mr. Rockwell is beginning to go to the publisher direct. Libraries have so far operated on a profitable, but hand-to-mouth policy. The time has come he believes for greater cooperation between library buyer and publisher. Yet how great may be the potential purchasing power of the library system only a few chains like the Associated have begun in a small way to suggest.

The Associated, according to Mr. Rockwell, has no intention of competing with the retail book-seller. The library system must eventually dispose of its books, but this does not come within the definition of real competition. On the other hand it may tend to increase the existing number of readers who buy books, good books. When, either because of hard usage or lack of popularity, a book can no longer be retained in active service, it is disposed of in one of two ways. At intervals various storekeepers along the circuit like to hold a special bargain sale of "remainders' good advertising feature incidentally. The books which do not get written off in this manner are sold in packages of twenty-five to a leading Boston department store. The latter disposes of them at a rate of perhaps six for a dollar. The demand among persons desiring books for their summer camps, their children or "on trial," is very large. Mr. Rockwell believes it is but a

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step from such sales to those of the higher priced, first hand books in retail stores.

The leading operators of lending library systems can give the booktrade many tips in the pyschology both of readers and booksellers. The Associated for example always prefers to have a woman in charge of a library. She takes a greater interest and not only keeps the books in better condition as a working unit, but also spreads the word much wider about the best ones on the shelf. Male readers seldom glance at the copyright date, women always do. Women desire to read "Kathleen Norris" latest," while men will as often as not accept an old magazine story which is being published twenty years after its original That explains why only serialization. within a comparatively few years have library organizers commenced to request the publishers to place whenever possible a modern date on the title-page. Of course when reprint rights alone are purchased, the copyright date cannot be changed.*

Another demand that the libraries are now making seems to be for the benefit of the entire trade. Women, they have discovered, may only borrow a book, but they desire, when they carry it under their arm, that it shall look at least as nice as the gown or purse they wear. Consequently in dealing directly with the publishers the Associated Book Sales Company has been stressing the matter of good covers and

well made books.

In the matter of popularity in lending libraries, Mr. Rockwell has discovered that books play queer pranks. The Associated has one test for a book. If the collectors consistently observe it on the shelves, as they make their rounds, it must be replaced. A lending library has no time to figure out the per book earnings of its in-

associates hope to put into operation eventually, are of a character that should prove satisfactory to the entire booktrade. He feels that in the last analysis the Associated Book Sales Co. and systems of a like nature are uncovering new readers and their experience with a library service will make them more discriminating purchasers of fine books. Particularly does Mr. Rockwell believe that in many cases the lending libraries are being patronized by large numbers of those business men and women who have, perhaps, begun already to lay the ground work for libraries of their own. With proper cooperation, lending libraries should be able to increase this tendency greatly. The manner in which readers have responded to the special five cent volumes, together with the sales of remainders, proves that they are keenly alive to all opportunities afforded them to come in contact with good titles. By a steadily increasing purchase power the library systems are also becoming a powerful factor toward combatting price cutting tendencies.

dividual wares. The main idea is to buy advantageously and to increase the weekly rentals, refilling the shelves as fast as they empty themselves. Many readers want the latest books circulating in their neighborhood irrespective of the quality. Consequently, if a publisher delays sending out his library copies prior to the publication date, it hurts not only the library, but himself as well. In the matter of cooperation on deliveries and methods of charging, the retail seller will find himself actively supported by the lending library circuits every time. From their experience the lending libraries declare that Kathleen Norris, Ethel M. Dell, Cosmo Hamilton and many other well-known authors may write a poor book and "stay off the shelves" just the same. On the other hand effectively told stories will sometimes continue long after the publisher has forgotten their existence. "The Spaniard" and "One Hour and Forever" are of this type. As regards reprints Mr. Rockwell states that he would find plenty of readers for "The Night Wind," "Alias the Night Wind" and "The Night Wind Returns," if he could get copies of them. Only the later titles in this once popular series are now available. The plans which Mr. Rockwell and his

^{* [}It is, of course, good practice for the date of printing to appear on the title-page, with the original copyright date on the reverse, and this does correctly indicate the contemporary interest in the book which caused its reprinting. But there are the other points of view. Public libraries are anxious that publishers make it clear when a volume is a reissue, so that libraries will not be reordering a volume which they have, and many circulating library patrons who do know that there is information on the copyright page wish to be able to place a book chronologically among an author's work and want to be protected from reading a story published in a magazine many years before. Ed.1

Their ability to absorb both publisher's and retailer's remainders eventually should serve as an extensive steadying influence for the entire trade. A time will certainly come when they may be depended upon to take up the slack which now occurs in the case of certain books and territories, but which can never be foreseen in advance. Mr. Rockwell's point of view is distinctly that of "books," not that of a single publisher or retailer. The prosperity of the lending library depends upon its manager's ability not to popularize a particular book, but to sense the response of a tremendous reading public and in as wide degree as possible to supply for it the titles which it demands.

Just at present Mr. Rockwell is seeking to formulate progressive principles for this the youngest but not the most recent addition to the booktrade's varied agencies. Library systems are springing up every-where and seem likely to kill each other off. Mr. Rockwell dreams of the day when an association of lending libraries will be formed. To-day, the operator of a library chain is powerless to prevent the stealing of books. If properly organized, the industry could cooperate effectively against this evil in association with the public libraries. Again, many storekeepers accept a library until it begins to "look old," and then send for one from another source. An association could prevent this. It would also be able to do much toward bringing efficiency into the location of new stands. The figures which it might collect as regards the growth of population and reading centers, would be of benefit to the entire trade.

To observe the ramifications of such circuits as that of the Associated Book Sales Company, is to realize the lending library chain branch system has come to stay. Essentially a neighborhood service, and as much in demand as any drug- or grocerystore, it appears certain to grow as rapidly as the life around it grows. These circuits have passed beyond the stage of experiment. To-day, their operators are being called upon by publishers' salesmen as regularly as any retail bookstore. Tomorrow, they will be meeting the publishers themselves and planning nation-wide distribution. If the publishers lend their support today, the lending library may well prove not only to

be a stimulator of readers, but an important agency in the reduction of costs. Hitherto, the libraries have been content to average their per book expense by mixing \$2.50 books with rebinds. Now, however, they are beginning to average their authors in a similar manner. With cooperation they may yet prove an effective means of underwriting the expense occurring when a new writer tries his wings for the first time.

New Jewish Encyclopedia In Preparation

A NEW popular Jewish encyclopedia is to be issued here by the Encyclopedia Judaica on which work will be begun at once, it has been announced. The only encyclopedia that has been issued for American Jews was published under the managing editorship of Dr. Isidore Singer in 1901, It was primarily designed for scientific and not popular reading. The new one will be in four or five volumes and will be edited by Dr. Isaac Landman, for eleven years rabbi of Temple Israel at Far Rockaway, N. Y. The editorial offices will be in the new Jewish Federation Building, 71 West 47th.

League of Nations Index-Cards

SINCE the first of January, the Publications Service of the League of Nations has issued index-cards for each of its new publications. These are modeled upon those of the Library of Congress. Each new publication is classified under such headings as section of origin, author, exact title, subject. The card also contains the date of publication, price and official number of the document. The annual subscription is \$5 post free.

Book Thief Given 90 Days

RALPH ELLINGSON, a book thief, was sentenced to 90 days in jail by a San Francisco judge on May 3. His last offense was stealing a copy of "Why We Behave Like Human Beings." "First I started borrowing books and keeping them," he told the court. "The habit kept growing on me until by and by I was taking them without permission and now I am in jail for stealing them from stores."

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Famous Literary Prizes

Bessie Graham

XII

HAWTHORNDEN PRIZE.

Alice Warrender, an Englishwoman, is a prize of £100 and a silver medal awarded annually to an English writer ander forty-one years of age for the best work of imaginative literature published between June 1st and May 31st. The prize has been awarded eight times; four times to poetry and four times to prose. Books do not have to be specially submitted for the prize. It is awarded without competition. The winners are:—

- 1919 "The Queen of China." (Verse.) By Edward Shanks. Knopf, o.p.
- 1920 "Poems New and Old." By John Freeman. Harcourt, o.p.
- "The Death of Society." By Romer Wilson. Doubleday, Doran; \$2.00. Later works are "The Grand Tour," 1925, Knopf, \$2.50; "Dragon's Blood," 1927, Knopf, \$2.50; "Greenlow," 1927, Knopf, \$2.50 and "Latterday Symphony," 1927, Knopf, \$2.
- 1922 "The Shepherd." (Verse). By Edmund Blunden. Knopf, o.p.
- Garnett. Knopf, \$1.50.
 This was parodied by Christopher Ward as "Gentleman Into Goose," Holt, \$1.50. Later works are "A Man in the Zoo," Knopf, \$1.75; "The Sailor's Return," Knopf, \$2.00 and "Go She Must!," Knopf,
- "The Spanish Farm." By Ralph Hale Mottram. Dial Press, \$2.50. A great war novel "The Spanish Farm," is the first volume of a triology. The other volumes are Sixty-Four Ninety-Four," "The Crime at Vanderlynden's." These three volumes previously published separately are now, with three new connecting pieces, published in one volume.

- 1925 "Juno and the Paycock." By Sean O'Casey. Macmillan, \$2.25.

 In the same volume with "The Shadow of a Gunman." This was the first time the prize was given to a dramatist.
- 1926 "The Land." (A poem). By V. Sackville West. Doubleday, Doran. This is the first of Miss Sackville West's poems to be published in this country. All her novels are published by Doran.

HARPER PRIZE NOVELS

HARPER & BROTHERS offered in September 1923, a prize of \$2,000 for the best novel submitted to them by an American author who had not published a novel in book form more than eight years earlier. This condition of the award made only the new and younger writers eligible. The prize was in addition to the ordinary terms of royalty. Harper & Brothers have repeated this prize offer three times in alternate years, 1923, 1925, 1927. The announcement of the Harper Prize Novel Contest has now become a literary event.

- Margaret Wilson. Harper, \$2.

 This is the author's first book. It is a story of early Scotch settlers in a pioneer Iowa community. Miss Wilson was born in Iowa, graduated from the University of Chicago, went as a missionary to India, and has since married an Englishman who is Deputy Governor of the old Wormwood Scrubs Prison in London. Her later novels are "The Kenworthys" and its sequel "The Painted Room" and "Daughters of India," Harper, \$2 each.
- 1925 "The Perennial Bachelor." By Anne Parrish. Harper, \$2. The author, Mrs. Charles Corliss, has written a story of Delaware, setting the scene in the background of her mother's old home near Wilmington. An

earlier novel, "A Pocketful of Poses" still retains its popularity, while a later work, "Tomorrow Morning" soon found a place among best selling novels.

Wescott. Harper, \$2.50. The story of three generations of an American family in the Middle West during the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and more recent events. The author was born in Wisconsin, was educated at the University of Chicago, and has written one earlier novel, "The Apple of the Eye," 1926. Harper, \$2.

DODD, MEAD PRIZE NOVELS

DODD, MEAD & COMPANY, together with the Pictorial Review and Famous Players-Lasky Corp., offered in 1924 a prize of \$13,500 for the best novel by an American author who had not previously published a novel in book form. In addition to the prize the author was given royalties, film rights and serial rights. Writers of short stories, of poetry, belles lettres or general subjects as well as those who had had nothing published in novel form were invited to compete. The prize has been awarded twice: the second time it was increased to \$16,500 with First National Pictures, Inc.

"Wild Geese." By Martha Ostenso. Dodd, \$2. The scene is laid in the arctic circle. It was described as "a story of men of the polar bear type and of some nice women." Miss Ostenso had previously published a book of poetry, "A Far Land," Seltzer, \$1.50, and has vritten "The Dark Dawn," Dodd, \$2, "The Mad Carews," Dodd, \$2.

1927 "Rebellion." By Mateel Howe Farnham. Dodd, \$2. The story of a father and daughter with the attendant misunderstandings and clashings of their two different generations. The author is the daughter of the well-known Kansas editor, Ed. Howe.

ATLANTIC MONTHLY PRIZE NOVEL

THE Atlantic Monthly in May, 1926, offered a prize of \$10,000 for the most interesting novel of any sort, kind, or description. This sum was in addition to regular book royalties.

"Jalna." By Mazo de la Roche. Little, \$2. Miss de la Roche is a Canadian, born in Toronto, of French descent. "Jalna" is a story of a very quarrelsome but cohesive family on a British country estate in a Canadian forest. The author has written three earlier novels: "Possession," Macmillan, \$2; "Delight," Macmillan, \$2. and "Explorers of the Dawn," Knopf, \$2.50.

JOHN DAY COMPANY AND WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION PRIZE NOVEL

A \$50,000 prize contest was conducted in 1926 by the John Day Company and the Woman's Home Companion. The judges, four in number, were the President of the John Day Company, the Editor of the Woman's Home Companion, and two distinguished writers, Dorothy Canfield and James Branch Cabell. The prize \$25,000 for the best novel by a woman was awarded to Katharine Brown of Quincy, Illinois, for her story entitled "The Father."

The plot of the prize-winning book deals with the fortunes of a father and daughter who lived in Southern Illinois in 1850. The father, a printer, quarrels continually with an obscure local lawyer who is a close friend of the family. The rabid old printer endeavors always to win Lawyer Abraham Lincoln over to the abolitionist cause.

Altho 500 men submitted manuscripts in this contest the judges did not consider one worthy of a prize. The best manuscript submitted by a man was outclassed by at least a dozen of the manuscripts submitted by women.

"The Father." By Katharine Holland Brown. John Day Company.
To be published November 15; probable price, \$2.50.

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Boston Booktrade News

Dale Warren

Houghton Mifflin Co.

ARTMOUTH STREET at Newbury is becoming an important book The Gardenside Bookshop center. specializes in importations and always has in stock an attractive assortment of hunting and sporting books. Across the street, the Dartmouth Bookstall is doing an excellent volume of business for a shop not yet a year old. The neighboring Vendome News Company has in the last few years grown from a stationer's shop and magazine stand to an important bookstore where new fiction and biography is prominently displayed and rapidly sold. H. R. Burgess has a delightful basement bookshop two steps round the corner on Newbury.

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THE final lecture of the series given at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel under the auspices of the Atlantic Monthly Bookshop was appropriately arranged as a talk on gardens and garden books by Mrs. Francis King. "Gardening and Farming" is the title of one of Lauriat's most attractive spring catalogs.

BERTHA MAHONY, Director of the Bookshop for Boys and Girls, has been appointed a judge of the Harper prize contest of \$2,000 for the best book of fiction for girls. Miss Mahony's influence in bookselling circles extends far beyond the windows of her efficiently managed shop on Boylston Street.

N N N

HALE, CUSHMAN AND FLINT, the new Boston firm of publishers, have attracted considerable attention by getting quickly under way their first book, Sousa's "Marching Along."

A A A

THE practice of sending letters with manuscripts is still popular with many would-be authors. The other day a Boston publisher received one which read something as follows: "I do hope you will read

my story from beginning to end. Who knows but what I may be another Edna Ferber or a second Shakespeare?"

* * *

NO sooner had Little, Brown and Company utilized the latest thing in sand-blast to remove the outer coating of white paint from the original red brick facade of their Beacon Street Building than the Boston State House promptly followed suit.

A 36 36

VIÑA DELMAR'S novel "Bad Girl" is the latest book to come under the Boston book ban. This subject of what books shall or shall not be sold is still much on the Boston mind. Horace Liveright came on from New York not long ago to set his opinions before the undergraduates of Harvard and Radcliffe. If books are to be banned in Boston, said Mr. Liveright, publishers should be allowed to know the basis of book censorship. Interviewed on the same subject by the Boston Globe, Esther Forbes, prominent New England novelist, recently stated her disapproval of the present system in no uncertain terms.

A 36 38

DOROTHY FOSTER GILMAN who has for the last two years conducted "Bookstall Gossip," a semi-weekly department of the Boston Transcript, is sailing shortly for a summer in Europe.

A 18 18

JOHN ERSKINE and the explorer, Stefansson, have recently lectured in Boston, under the auspices, respectively, of the Ford Hall Forum and the Children's Aid Society.

JOHN CAMPBELL has found that to open a branch shop a bookseller does not have to have a large main store nor an endless amount of capital. He has also found that people in residential as well as

in business districts, buy books. Mr. Campbell has one store on Newbury Street and another on St. James Avenue.

N N N

JOHN A. REED, of DeWolfe and Fiske, has been making quite a feature of the window displays for which that store is noted. While George Arliss was playing in town in the revival of "The Merchant of Venice," the Arliss biography, "Up the Years From Bloomsbury," was exhibited together with a striking announcement of the play. On the date of publication of Esther Forbes's "A Mirror for Witches," a full window was given to this book of particular significance to all New Englanders. The red and black cardboard witches suspended by red string from the ceiling arrested the attention of passers-by and brought not a few into the store.

32 THE Charles E. Lauriat Company is having a special spring clearance sale of "Choice Old Books" stating in their catalog that "as a rule there is but one copy or set of each and the first order received secures it."

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HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COM-PANY have already begun to receive manuscripts in connection with the War Novel Competition which they are sponsoring in connection with the American Legion Monthly. The Atlantic Monthly Press has just announced a \$5,000 prize contest for "the most interesting biography of any kind, sort or description" submitted by May 1, 1929, the date on which the Houghton Mifflin competition also closes. The winning biography will be serialized in whole or in part in the Atlantic Monthly before it is published in book form by Little, Brown and Company.

Main Line Booksellers Meet

THE Main Line Booksellers' Association held its third monthly meeting Monday evening, May 7th, in the attractive shop of Field and Shaw, Wayne, Pa.

In the absence of E. S. McCawley of Haverford, Pa., president of the association, Graham Shaw presided.

The organization is rather informal, the members meeting once a month in a social way to discuss matters of mutual interest

in the vicinity. It originated in the bookshop of Newman F. McGirr of Ardmore, Pa. Mr. McGirr is the secretary.

While there are only about 25 active members, the successive meetings show growing enthusiasm, and the club bids fair to be a future power in the community. An editor has already spoken of it as the most intelligent organization of business people along the Pennsy Main Line.

Among the firms included are E. S. Mc-Cawley & Co., Inc., Field and Shaw, The Twickenham Bookshop, Mrs. Helen B. Sullivan's The Book Shoppe, The Aladdin Studio and Newman F. McGirr.

Art In Advertising

AN exhibit of art in advertising is open during the month of May at the Art Center, 65 East Fifty-sixth Street, the seventh annual exhibition of the Art Directors Club of New York. This display of 260 items selected by a competent jury gives opportunity for users of commercial art to study the outstanding product of the year. The material shown includes magazine and newspaper advertising, posters, etc. The original design or painting is shown, and then below is a specimen of the way the painting or design was used. Prizes are given for various successful pieces in six different classifications. Among the pieces shown were four of the posters of the National Association of Book Publishers, including the Religious Book Week poster by Adolph Treidler, the Books as Christmas Gifts poster by Charles Kaiser, and two of Bertrand Zadig's store Many of the artists working on cards. advertising are familiar to book buyers, including Edward A. Wilson, Rockwell Kent, both of whom obtained medals, N. C. Wyeth, Guido and Lawrence Rosa, Ralph Barton and Wallace Morgan.

Lippincott Addresses Pen Women

TOSEPH W. LIPPINCOTT, president of the J. B. Lippincott Company, recently addressed the fourth biennial convention of the National League of American Pen Women in Washington, D. C., and chose as his subject, "Authors as Publishers See Them." He showed by numerous anecdotes how the position of the publisher as the lion and the author as the lamb had in recent years become reversed. e

Communications

MR. CALKINS ON BOOK-SHOPPING

Hotel Plaza-Athenée, Paris, France, May 3, 1928.

Editor, Publishers' Weekly:

I find in the April 14th issue of the Publishers' Weekly a letter from Guy R. Turner of the Doubleday-Doran Bookshop at St. Louis, who quotes two sentences from my book, "Business the Civilizer," which he thinks (and hopes) will deter booksellers from recommending it with any great enthusiasm. I am sorry so sweeping a statement as the sentences he quotes was allowed to stand without qualification, tho I am sure booksellers will agree that the statement was true and still is of many bookshops. But I hope the booksellers will judge the article, not by these excerpts, but by the whole text, and particularly that they will read the note on page 164, which states that the article was written and printed six years ago, and that since then the number of bookstores rendering a real service to readers has greatly increased. I hate to appear thru carelessness as a hostile critic of bookstores, for there are no merchants more necessary to me, and nothing I buy which gives me so much satisfaction as books. But I cannot forget out of a long life of compulsory travel the number of times I have searched for a store where I could buy a book to while away the hours till train time and could not find one. Mr. Turner says he would like to know where I buy books. I buy them at a number of New York shops which fill my ideal in every way, and their number is increasing, thank God, and among them should be included the shops now known as the Doubleday-Doran Bookshops. But that is New York. There are still many good-sized towns in which there is not yet a real selection of books for sale. But I realize I should have said this in the passages criticised.

Yours sincerely, EARNEST ELMO CALKINS.

Change in Price

"Bad Girl," by Viña Delmar. From \$2 to \$2.50, effective May 21.

Obituary Notes BARRY PAIN

BARRY PAIN, English novelist, died on May 5. While at Cambridge he was one of the best-known contributors to Granta, the University magazine. In 1891 he published his first book, "In a Canadian Canoe." Among his best-known books were: "The Octave of Claudius," "The Shadow of the Unseen," "Stories in Grey," "The New Gulliver," "The Death of Maurice," "The One Before," "Mrs. Murphy," "Exit Eliza," "This Charming Green Hat Fair," "The Exiles of Faloo," "Marge Askin Forit" and "Essays of Today and Yesterday."

LOUIS J. COE

Louis J. Coe, senior partner of Coe Brothers' Book Store died in Springfield, Illinois on Saturday, April 28th.

Personal Notes

MAJOR GEORGE HAVEN PUTNAM lectured at Oxford University this month on "Personal Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln." Mr. Putnam holds the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature of Oxford.

MEIRIC K. DUTTON, Director of The Ohio State University Press and author of Historical Sketch of Bookbinding as an Art, sailed Wednesday, May 16, for Europe where he will make a study of Presses and printing conditions.

Business Notes

CHICAGO, ILL.—Boni & Liveright are taking larger quarters for their Chicago office and on May 25th James L. Crowder, Western representative will conduct a formal opening. The address will be the same, 20 East Jackson Boulevard, but the new office number will be 1203.

NEW YORK CITY—Friedmans' of 70 West 51st Street have moved to 53 West 50th Street.

NEW YORK CITY—The Empire State Book Company of 70 West 51st Street has moved to 53 West 50th Street.

Toledo, Ohio.—Robert F. Nachtrieb will open a bookstore at 619 Madison Avenue in September to be known as Nachtrieb & Co.

The Weekly Record of New Publications

HIS list aims to be a complete and accurate record of American book publications. Pamphlets will be included only if of special value. Publishers should send copies of all books promptly for annotation and entry, and the receipt of advance copies insures record simultaneous with publication. The annotations are descriptive, not critical; intended to place, not to judge the books. Pamphlet material and books of lesser trade interest are listed in smaller type.

The entry is transcribed from title page when the book is sent for record. Prices are added except when not supplied by publisher or obtain-able only on specific request, in which case word "apply" is used. When not specified the binding is "cloth."

Imprint date or best available date, preferably copyright date in bracket, is always stated, except when imprint date and copyright date agree and are of the current year, in which case only "c" is used. No ascertainable date is designated three find? thus: [n.d.].

Sizes are indicated as follows: F (folio: over 30 centimeters high); Q (4to: under 30 cm.); O (8vo: 25 cm.); D (12mo: 20 cm.); S (16mo: 17½ cm.); T (24mo: 15 cm.); sq., obl., nar., designate square, oblong, narrow.

Aldrich, Chilson D.

The real log cabin. 291p. il. diagrs. O c. N. Y., Macmillan

The author is an architect, who has devoted him-self exclusively to the designing and building of log cabins.

Andress, James Mace, and others

Health essentials. 489p. il. (col. front.) diagrs. D [c. '28] Bost., Ginn A text book for high schools.

Ashley, Sir William

The bread of our forefathers; an inquiry in economic history. 218p. il. O '28 N. Y., Ox-

Bailey, Paul

"Lookout" Laramie; a western story. 251p. D (C. H. popular copyrights) [c. '27] N. Y., Chelsea House.

Banks, Polan

Black ivory. various p. D (Copyright fiction) '28 N. Y., Burt 75 c.

Bartley, Nalbro Isadorah [Mrs. Howard Lerch]

The fox woman. 327p. D '28 c. '27, '28 Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Doran The story of a woman who exacted everything from those about her and gave—nothing.

Bassett, Sara Ware

The Green Dolphin. various p. D (Copyright fiction) '28 N. Y., Burt 75 c.

Beebe, William

Jungle days. 201p. il. D (Star ser.) [c.'23, '25] Garden City, N. Y., Garden City Pub. Co.

Bilgram, Hugo

The remedy for overproduction and unemployment. 118p. S [c. '28] N. Y., Vanguard

Brand, Max

The white wolf. various p. D (Copyright fiction) '28 N. Y., Burt

Brunt, David

Meteorology. 112p. il. D (World's manuals) 28 N. Y., Oxford

Caruthers, William A.

The knights of the horseshoe. various p. D (Copyright fiction) '28 N. Y., Burt

Catholic encyclopedia; new ed.; 17 v.; ed. by Edward A. Pace, and others. various p. il. 28 N. Y., Universal Knowledge Found., 19 Union Sq. \$90; lea., \$120, bxd.

Chadsey, Charles Ernest, and others

America in the making; 2v. 349p; 481p. (bibls.) il. maps D [c.'27] N. Y., Health

The story of America's making for seventh, eighth and ninth grades. Book one, Founding the Nation; book two, Growth of the Nation.

Cohen, Julius Berend

Organic chemistry: 3 v.; pt. 1. Reactions; pt. 2. Structure; pt. 3. Synthesis. 5th ed. 434p.; 494p.; 447p. (bibls.) diagrs. O '28 N. Y., Longmans

Covello, Leonard, and Giacobbe, Annita E. First book in Italian. 546p. il. (col. front.) map (col.) D c. N. Y., Macmillan \$2

Almack, Mary Ruth
A quantitative study of chromatic adaptation.
123p. (bibl.) il., diagrs. O (Psychological monographs, no. 174) '28 Princeton, N. J., Psychological Review Co.

Baldwin, Maud Junkin

Stories of the early Hebrew heroes; 4th bk., junior—first year. 1919. diagrs. O (Religious educ. texts for vacation schools) [c. '28] Phil., United Lutheran Pub'n House

\$1.25; memory work b'klet, 10 c. Bannon, Henry Towne Stories old and often told, being chronicles of

cioto County, Ohio. 288p. il., maps O '27 Balt., Waverly Press
Bauer, Edward E.
Highway materials. 353p. il. O '28 N. Y., McGraw-Hill

W. R.

(bibl.) il. Soil erosion a national menace. 36p. (1 O (U. S. Dep't of Agri., circ. no. 33) '28 D. C., Gov't Pr. Off.; Sup't of Doc. Wash., pap. 25 C.

Boeckel, Richard Presidential politics, 1928 [11 reports in slip-case] various p. O ['28] Wash., D. C., Editorial Research Reports, 839 17th St., N. W. pap. \$3.50, set Cullum, Ridgwell

The mystery of the barren lands. 318p. D
c. Phil., Lippincott \$2
The pursuit of a super-criminal of the Canadian northland.

David, K., pseud. [Mrs. W. R. Clark]

The Sun Bird. 241p. D '28 c. '27 N. Y., H. Vinal
The romance of an aviator.

Davis, H. P.

Black democracy; the story of Haiti. 383p. (5p. bibl.) il. maps O c. N. Y., Dial Press \$5
The history of Haiti from the time of its discovery by Columbus until today, including a discussion of its present political situation.

Dawson, Coningsby William

Pilgrims of the impossible. 357p. D c. Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Doran
The love story of a man who was bred for the pulpit but found the profession too narrow.

Dobrée, Bonamy, ed.

Five Restoration tragedies. 468p. T (World's classics, no. 313) '28 N. Y., Oxford 80 c.

Dudley, Louise

The study of literature. 408p. (bibls.) D [c.'28] Bost., Houghton \$3; school ed., \$2.25

Duff, Alexand Wilmer, and Weed, Henry Townsend

Elements of physics. 574p. il. (pt. col.) diagrs. D c. N. Y., Longmans \$2.20

Freeman, Richard Austin

The magic casket. various p. D (Copyright fiction) '28 N. Y., Burt 75 c.

Freund, Ernst

Administrative powers over persons and property; a comparative survey. 645p. (bibl. footnotes) O [c.'28] Chic., Univ. of Chic. Press \$5

Friel, Arthur O.

Renegade. various p. D (Copyright fiction)
28 N. Y., Burt 75 c.

Fuess, Claude Moore

Men of Andover; introd. by Alfred Ernest Stearns. 262p. il. O c. New Haven, Conn., Yale \$3

Biographical sketches in commemoration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.

Gallichan, Walter M.

Sexual apathy and coldness in women. 183p. (bibl. footnotes) D'28 Bost., Stratford \$2.50

Gautier, Théophile

Menagerie intime; ed. by François de la Fontainerie. 140p. S [c. '28] Newark, N. J., Silver, Burdett 84 c.

Gilbert, George

The quick-draw kid; a western story. 252p. D (C. H. popular copyrights) [c.'27] N. Y., Chelsea House

Grayson, Theodore J.

Investment trusts; their origin, development, and operation. 434p. O '28 N. Y., Wiley \$5

Green, Julian

The closed garden. 407p. D c. N. Y., Harper \$2.50

The tragedy of a small family in a provincial French town, brought about by the stifled emotions of one of the daughters.

Harper, Wilhelmina, and Hamilton, Aymer Jay

Pleasant pathways; il. by Maud and Miska Petersham. 271p. (2p. bibl.) il. (col.) D (Treasure trails) c. N. Y., Macmillan 84 c. Stories and poems by well known authors comprise this reader for children.

Harrison, Marie

Cook and be cool; a book for hot weather housekeeping. 156p. D c. Bost., Houghton

bds. \$1.25 Menus and recipes for cold dishes made up by a former editor of Vogue.

Hartshorne, Hugh, and May, Mark A.

Studies in deceit. 327p. diagrs. D (Studies in the nature of character) c. N. Y., Macmillan \$4.50

Card, L. E.

Raising chicks at a profit. 15p. il. O (Agri. college and experiment sta., circ. no. 329) '28 Urbana, Ill., Univ. of Ill.

[Raising chicks at a profit. 15p. il. O (Agri. college and experiment sta., circ. no. 329) '28 Urbana, pap. apply

Claybrook, J. N.
Patents; from the article on this subject in the Encyclopedia of U. S. Supreme Court reports. various p. O '27 Charlottesville, Va., Michie Co. \$5

Clendening, Louis, M.D.

Modern methods of treatment; 2nd ed. 815p.
(bibls.) il., diagrs. (pt. col.) O '28, c. '24, '28 St.
Louis, C. V. Mosby \$10

Craig, Gerald Spellman

Tentative course of study in elementary science for grades 3 and 4. 132p. (bibls.) O '27 N. Y.,

Teachers College, Columbia Univ. pap. 90 c.

Daugherty, C. A., and others
Power capacity and production in the United
States. 210p. maps, diagrs. O (Water-supply pap.,
579) '28 Wash., D. C., Gov't Pr. Off.; Sup't of Doc.
pap. 30 c.

Department of Elementary School Principals

The seventh yearbook, the elementary school

principalship. 506p. (bibls.) O (Bull., v. 7, no. 3) c. Wash., D. C., Author, Nat'l Educ. Ass'n, 1201 16th St., N. W. pap. \$2

Fisher, H. A. L.
Viscount Bryce of Dechmont, O.M., 1838-1922;
memoir. 10p. O (British Acad.) '27 N. Y., Oxford
pap. 35 c.

Frederick, F. W.

Woolen and silk mills; lectures given before senior students in fire insurance. 21p. O '28 N. Y., Insurance Soc. of N. Y.

Gomberg, Moses
Radicals in chemistry, past and present. 23p.
(bibl. footnotes) front (por.) O (Chandler lecture, 1928) c. N. Y., Columbia Univ. Press pap. apply

Goodenough, Florence L.

The Kuhlman-Binet tests for children of preschool age; a critical study and evaluation. 158p.
il. D (Inst. of Child Welfare monograph, ser. 2)
'28 Minneapolis, Univ. of Minn. Press.

Gutterson, G. L., and others, comps.
The Gutterson family [lim. ed.]. 19p. O 27
Rutland, Vt., Tuttle Co. pap. \$3.75

Hawcock, Emory

Salads and sandwiches and specialty dishes for restaurants and tea rooms. 119p. il. O c. N. Y., Harper

Hawkes, Herbert Edwin

Advanced algebra; rev. ed. 309p. diagrs. S [c. '28] Bost., Ginn

Hendryx, James Beardsley

Downey of the Mounted. various p. (Copyright fiction) '28 N. Y., Burt

Heuser, Herman Joseph, D.D.

The Archibishop's pocket-book. 295p. D c. N. Y., P. J. Kenedy
A novel dealing with Catholic theology, the main characters being an Archbishop and his valet.

Hinds, Roy W.

The tunnel to doom; a detective story. 255p. D (C. H. popular copyrights) [c. '27] N. Y., Chelsea House

Hinkson, Mrs. Katharine Tynan

The respectable lady. 307p. D c. N. Y., Appleton Beneath the superiority of Mrs. Heseltine, who always did the right thing, lies a dramatic story that portrays the lives and loves of the people in a little country town.

Holmes, T. Rice

The architect of the Roman Empire. 302p. maps O '28 N. Y., Oxford

The Iliad; tr. by Andrew Lang and others; ed. by Rudolph J. Pelunis. 516p. il. maps D (Modern readers' ser.) c. N. Y., Macmillan

Hughes, Rupert

The lovely ducklings. 31op. D '28 c. '27, '28 N. Y., Harper A novel concerning the Todd family problems caused by the five lively young Todds, typical of

their generation,

Iyer, C. S. Ranga

Father India; a reply to Mother India. 213p. (bibl. footnotes) D c. N. Y., Louis Carrier & Co.

In which questions of culture, sex life and re-ligious custom are discussed from the oriental point of view and compared with the western.

Klenova, Varia, and Lamprey, Louise

Natalia and Nikolai, children of Russia.

176p. il. map D (Children of the world) [c. 28] Yonkers, N. Y., World Bk.

A supplementary reader for grammar grades. The story falls within the days of the last Czar.

Leavell, George W., M.D.

Some fruits of the Gospel; experiences of a medical missionary. 120p. il. D [c.'28] Nashville, Tenn., S. S. Bd. of So. Bapt. Con-

LePage, W. Laurence

A B C of flight. 141p. S '28 N. Y., Wiley

Locke, Gladys Edson

The house on the downs. various p. D (Copyright fiction) '28 N. Y., Burt 75 c. The house on the downs.

Loos, Anita [Mrs. John Emerson]

"But gentlemen marry brunettes"; il, by Ralph Barton. 248p. D '28 c. '27, '28 N. Y., Liveright bds. \$2 Continuing the adventures of Lorelei and Dorothy, but chiefly those of Dorothy, the brunette.

Lull, Richard Swann

Ancient man. 152p. (bibl.) S (Humanizing of knowledge ser.) c. Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Doran

McCandlish, Edward

The Bunny Tots series; 6 v. various p. il. (col.) D '28 N. Y., Burt 50 c., ea. The titles in the series for children from from to eight are "The Bunny Tots' Snow Book," "Bunny Tots' Games and Amusements," "The Bunny Tots' Rainy Day Book," "The Bunny Tots at the Seashore," "The Bunny Tots' Circus Book" and "The Bunny Tots' Window Book."

Maccurdy, John Thompson, M.D.

Common principles in psychology and physiology. 301p. (bibl. footnotes) O (Cambridge psychological lib.) '28 N. Y., Macmillan \$6

Macdonald, Austin Faulks

Elements of political science research; sources and methods. 98p. (10p. bibl.) D c. N. Y., Prentice-Hall

MacKaye, Percy

The Gobbler of God; il. by Arvia MacKaye. bds. \$2 106p. D c. N. Y., Longmans A poem of the southern Appalachians.

Macy, William Francis

The story of old Nantucket; 2nd ed., rev. and enl. 201p. il. S '28 c. '15, '28 Bost., Hough-\$1.50

Harrison, Norman B.
His life in prayer. 96p. S (Harrison "His" ser.)
'28 Chic., Bible Inst. Colportage Ass'n 75 c.; pap., 50 c.

Hoelter, J. H. F.

The Concordia organist [hymns]. 74p. Q '27 St.
Louis, Mo., Concordia Pub. House

Khan, Shafaat Ahmad, ed.

John Marshall in India; notes and observations in Bengal 1668-1672. 486p. map O (Allahabad Univ. studies in hist., v. 2 '27 N. Y., Oxford

Kitson, C. H.

Invertible counterpoint and capon of D '27.

Invertible counterpoint and canon. 96p. D '27

N. Y., Oxford \$2.50

Kretzmann, P. E., D.D.

Heroes of missions and their work. 52p. D '28

St. Louis, Mo., Concordia Pub. House pap. 20 c.

Kretzmann, P. E., D.D., and Wismar, Walter Of Judah's tribe and David's house. St. Louis, Mo., Concordia Pub. House pap. 15p. S '27 pap. 5 c.

McConnell, Lincoln, D.D.

The Great Pyramid, its mystery solved. 32p.
diagrs. O [c. '28] Bost., Beauchamp Pub. Co.,
pap. 50 c.

Macfarlane, John James
History of early Chestnut Hill. 168p. il. O (Phil. hist., v. 3) '27 Phil., City Hist. Soc. of Phil., 223 buck. \$5

McMurtrie, Douglas C.

The typography of a small newspaper; an address at the meeting of the Illinois Press Association.

14p. T '28 Chic., Ludlow Typography Co. pap. apply

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Manning-Sanders, Ruth

Waste Corner. 312p. D [c. '28] N. Y., Clode \$2.50

About poverty at Waste Corner, and especially about Matilda-May whose love for her romancing father carried her thru many trials.

Mantoux, Paul

The industrial revolution in the eighteenth century; an outline of the beginnings of the modern factory system in England; rev. ed., tr. by Marjorie Vernon. 539p. (28p. bibl. O N. Y., Harcourt

Martini, Herbert E.

Color [when and how to use it]. 63p. diagrs. (col.) O [c. '28] Pelham, N. Y., Bridg-

Merriam, Charles Edward, and Overacker,

459p. (23p. bibl.) O [c. Primary elections. 28] Chic., Univ. of Chic. Press \$3 A revision, with a collaborator, bringing Mr. Merriam's "Primary elections," first published nearly twenty years ago, up-to-date.

Merriam, Clinton Hart, M.D., ed.

An-nik-a-del; the history of the universe. 176p. il. D c. Bost., Stratford \$2 Folk stories or myths of the Indians of Northern

Meyer, Franz Sales

Meyer's handbook of ornament, geometrical and floral; introd. by Edward C. Bridgman. 57p. diagrs. O [c.'28] Pelham, N. Y., Bridgman

Mitchell, Sydney Bancroft

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VII

Pilgrim's Progress

O one in all Elstow, perhaps, could swear quite so proficiently as Tinker Bunyan's son John. Elstow was, of course, a tiny village, but the population of the shire town of Bedford, a mile or so away, might conceivably have been included to make the record more impressive. There were plenty of ways to account for it. Tinker Tom himself was a rather slovenly parent, and poor into the bargain, tho he and his wife Margaret had something to do with urging the slender schooling that was John's equipment for the world. The school itself could not have been a vast influence for good, if, as is probable, it was the one presided over by William Varney. about the time John was attending Master Varney's establishment, if he attended it at all, a petition was being circulated in Bedford charging that Varney "has grossly neglected the school by frequent absence from it, by night-walking and mis-spending his time, in taverns and ale-houses." As he was "also very cruel when present to the boys," the pupils must have rejoiced doubly whenever the rowdy pedagog failed to make his appearance.

John had certainly been sometime out of school, Master Varney's or another's, when, in 1644, when John was fifteen, his mother died. Within a month his sister Margaret followed her. Before another month had passed Tinker Bunyan had taken another wife. John Bunyan's grief could hardly have been mitigated by this piece of callousness. It must have been a relief, a few months later, to get into the army.

Unfortunately, research has not been able to determine which army it was. The first civil war was in full career. A few months later—in June, 1645—Cromwell delivered the stinging blow at Naseby that virtually ended it. Bunyan probably did not have an opportunity to take a very active part, whether he was on the side of King or Parliament. At all events, in 1646 he was back in Elstow plying the family trade of tinker. At nineteen or twenty he married.

Of Bunyan's early prowess in swearing we have his own statement as witness. "Even as a child," he recorded, "I had few equals in cursing, swearing, lying, and blaspheming the holy name of God." Assuredly one is taking no liberties with history, when, in accepting these words at their face value, and combining with them the vigorous fancy that must have found some external manifestations in childhood and youth, one reaches the conclusion that John Bunyan's capacities in this detail were distinguished. Swearing, despite an apparently general supposition to the contrary, is rarely colorful or picturesque, for the very reason that those who rely on the more powerful expletives to accent an expressed emotion, or no emotion at all, are rarely endowed with sufficient imagination or vocabulary to impart any degree of variety to the sturdier elements in their speech.

History, like the parish register at Elstow, does not record the name of Bunyon's wife—it is possible they were married elsewhere. But she was certainly the godly daughter of a godly father, transcending in her pedigree coronets and Norman blood. "This woman and I," said Bunyan, "came together as poor as poor might be, not having so much household stuff as a dish or spoon betwixt us both." Mrs. Bunyan, did, however, contribute two books to the new establishment, "The Plain Man's Pathway to Heaven" and "The Practise of Piety." These priceless association copies appear to have vanished from the face of the earth. Another that is equally priceless fortunately survives—Bunyan's copy of the three-volume 1641 edition of Foxe's "Book of Martyrs," with

his signature at the foot of each titlepage and, in volume three, the date 1682 added. The volumes are preserved in the Literary and Scientific Institute at Bedford.

Outwardly the four years following Bunyan's marriage differed little from those of the average new husband of his time—the difference, if any, was all on the side of piety and respectability. His chief, perhaps

his only errancy was his pretty regular attendance at the village hockey green on Sunday-but he went to service first, and went again in the evening, "very devoutly to say and sing as the others did." wardly, however, it was a period of such critical storm and stress as few men before or since have endured. The story of this tense spiritual drama is unfolded in all the passion of sincerity in "Grace Abounding for the Chief of Sinners." One notes curiously that the culminating temptation of this soul-tortured epoch was "to sell and part with the blessed Christ, to exchange him for the things of this life, for anything." In the up-to-date significance of the term, probably no man since St. Paul has wielded more influence to "sell Christ" than John Bunyan.

In 1655, at the age of twenty-six, Bunyan became a minister of God's word. He preached anywhere, indoors or out, but "I preached what I felt." His was no meagre endowment of oratory, but before the gift of tongues was the conviction with which he spoke, the dignity and purity of his utterance, compact with truths applicable to sound conduct in this world as a preparation for a world to come.

Four years passed, and with their passage the fame of Bunyan the preacher grew. In 1659 Cromwell died; the following year Charles II landed at Dover, the first successful invader since the Conqueror, "and in an instant," says John Richard Green, "the whole face of England was

changed. All that was noblest and best in Puritanism was whirled away with its pettiness and its tyranny in the current of the nation's hate."

The most telling direct thrust was the adoption of an act of uniformity which compelled the use of the Prayer-book in public worship and demanded the assent of every minister to everything in it. A time of grace was al-

lowed wherein this state of unanimity might be consummated; on its expiration some two thousand churchmen were ousted for nonconformity.

Bunyan, of course, had no church to be ousted from. This technicality, however, did not stand in the way of his arrest. The Restoration had been an accomplished fact for only six months when he was thrown into Bedford jail for preaching in unlicensed conventicles. "His refusal to abstain from preaching kept him there twelve years," Green records. This bald statement is likely to conjure up a slightly inaccurate picture. It is certain that the local authorities tried their hardest to keep him out, but Bunyan was not the man to fall in with any such well-intentioned endeavors. The law was the law, and to jail he went.

During the early years of his ministry Bunyan's wife had died, leaving him two



Bunyan's cottage at Elstow where he lived after his marriage

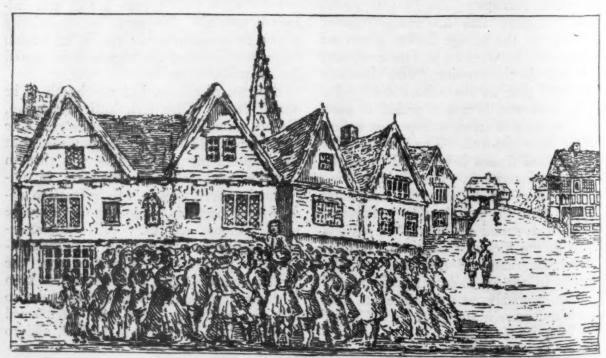
small daughters, one of whom, little blind Mary, died while he was in prison. In 1659 he had married again; his wife's name was Elizabeth. She had borne him two children before his arrest; a third was soon due; the strain of the arrest produced a premature delivery, and the child died.

The picture is pitiful—the man of stalwart courage and no less stalwart convictions going out to what ultimate doom he knew not (the gallows at the end, he half believed, if he persisted in his defiance, and The details of that persist he would). parting cannot be overdrawn. But the details of the years that followed have repeatedly been grossly overdrawn. One must not picture Bunyan as passing the long interval in durance at all vile. His lot would have been far worse, perhaps, had he lived in Massachusetts at the same time. Friends were allowed to visit him as well as his family. He even preached to them; more than that, he was at least occasionally permitted to leave his quarters and spend the night at home. He preached in the woods as of old-and his confinement naturally did nothing to depress his fame. For all that, the days dragged slowly. He made tags for bootlaces, and he read. And as a further means of passing the time, and purely for his own entertainment, he wrote part of a book.

In the spring of 1672 the order for

Bunyan's release was signed as one item in the rebirth of tolerance that followed the passing of the Conventicle Act two years before. He was forty-four years old.

The book which Bunyan had begun in jail was probably only two-thirds completed at the time of his release. Not until 1677 did he journey to London in search of a publisher. He selected Nathaniel Ponder, perhaps for the reason that Ponder himself had suffered a term of imprisonment "for carrying to the Presse to be printed an unlicensed Pamphlet tending to Sedition and Defamation of the Christian Religion." Ponder had proved, however, of smaller moral stature than Bunyan, for sixteen days after his commitment he was discharged "upon his humble petition, setting forth his hearty sorrow for his offence and promising never to offend in like manner." On February 18, 1678, was licensed (Mr. Ponder was playing safe this time) "The Pilgrim's Progress from This World to That which is to come: Delivered under the Similitude of a Dream Wherein is Discovered, The manner of his setting out, His Dangerous Journey; And safe Arrival at the Desired Country." The price per copy was a shilling sixpence. Three editions appeared within a year, and ten during Bunyan's lifetime. The second part was published six years later, and is today probably little better known than the second



Bunyan preaching in front of the Mote Hall, Bedford, October 18, 1659—facsimile of an old etching

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part of "Robinson Crusoe." An earlier second part, by another hand (that of T.S., who, it should be said, did not attempt to impute the ownership to Bunyan), had appeared in 1683. T.S., in fact, admitted that he was trying to improve on Bunyan's book, and aimed to "prevent that lightness

THE Pilgrim's Progress FROM THIS WORLD, That which is to come:

Delivered under the Similitude of a

Wherein is Discovered, The manner of his fetting out, His Dangerous Journey; And fafe Arrival at the Defired Countrey.

I have used Similitudes, Hof. 12. 10.

By John Bunyan.

Licensed and Entred iccording to Diber.

LONDON, Printed for Nath. Ponder at the Peacock in the Poulirey near Cornhil, 1678.

Title-page of the first edition of "The Pilgrim's Progress;" 1678

and laughter which the reading of some passages occasions in some vain and frothy minds"-proof that from the very beginning "The Pilgrim's Progress" was read not as a tract, but as a story. He further hoped that his revision might help along the idea that had been suggested for "the giving of Books of this nature at Funerals, instead of Rings, Gloves, Wine or Bisket." Here is a field of endeavor that present-day booksellers are wofully neglecting. Later, a third part appeared, written, unfortunate-

ly, with no such benign intentions as T.S.'s book had been, but in the attempt to deceive the reading public into thinking the book was Bunyan's.

"The Pilgrim's Progress" has been translated into more languages and dialects than any book save the Bible. There have been a dozen or more metrical versions in English, the first appearing as early as 1698. Of adaptations and abridgments there have been versions almost without number. The earliest translation was published in 1682 at Amsterdam; it is impossible, in this instance, to beat the Dutch. At least seven Netherland cities, in factas many (tho not in the Netherlands) as claimed Homer as a native son-were represented at the foot of title-pages of early issues of "The Pilgrim's Progress." A French translation appeared in 1685; there may have been one a year earlier of which no copy survives, for in 1684 Bunyan wrote:

"In France and Flanders, where men kill each other,

My Pilgrim is esteemed a Friend, a Brother.

In Holland, too, 'tis said, as I am told, My Pilgrim is with some, worth more than gold."

A German edition followed in 1703, translated from the Dutch. To His Majesty's Colonies in America belongs the honor of having produced (at Boston, in 1681) the first edition published outside the British Isles—a distinction which those same colonies may claim equally for the original extra-insular edition of the works of Shakespeare.

Because "The Pilgrim's Progress" has for a quarter of a milennium shared a place beside the Bible in the plain man's library, it has of course been read to tatters. As a consequence, he who would possess a first edition must look long and pay well at the end of his search. In 1830 Robert Southey, preparing a new edition for publication, declared that no copy of the first edition was known. Some ten copies have since come to light, however, some of them not perfect, and half the total are in America. About the same number of the second (also 1678) edition are known to survive, and only five of the third (1679). Scarcest of

all is the sixth (1681) edition, of which only a single perfect copy seems to be known

to prove its existence.

The whole romance of book-collecting hovers over a copy of the first edition which came to light in 1922. An English barber, a lifelong resident of Derby, kept a few books in his shop which he sometimes glanced at in the intervals between customers. His wife fell ill, and the barber brought her a little light reading from the front room. The doctor arrived to find his patient puzzling over the antique s's in a copy of "The Pilgrim's Progress." picked it up as she laid it down-a few words about what she was reading might help to take her mind off her troubles. The doctor's bedside manner deserted him immediately. Himself an amateur of books,

he was certain that there was something unusual about this one. It ought to be shipped to Sotheby's, he said—they'd know if it was worth anything, and he was sure it was.

Sotheby's replied, in the language of the House of Commons, in the affirmative. The book was worth at least £900, they reported. They would be glad to dispose of it at auction—and they did, to our own Dr. Rosenbach, for some £2500. It was not a perfect copy; otherwise it might have fetched £10,000.

The present year is a Bunyan anniversary of double significance. It memorializes his 300th birthday—which would mean nothing at all to the world if it did not likewise memorialize the 250th birthday of "The Pilgrim's Progress."

American Book Prices Current

Frederick M. Hopkins

THE thirty-third volume of the "American Book Prices Current" has just been delivered to its subscribers. This record of the sale of books, manuscripts and autographs sold at auction in New York and elsewhere, from July 1, 1926, to July 1, 1927, compiled from auctioneers' catalogs, has completed its first third of a century covering the most eventful period of bibliographical annals.

The first volume, published in 1895, contained 400 pages and included almost every lot selling for \$5 and upwards, as well as hundreds of items selling for \$3 and over. Fifty-six sales were reported, the most important of which was that of George Livermore of Boston which brought \$21,359.56. Many of the sales realized less than \$1,000, and quite a number less than \$500. In the preface the editor said: "Prices which five years ago would have been called exorbitant are today considered moderate. The demand exceeds the supply, and at each sale some buyer is prepared to pay, for a fine copy, a little more than the book has ever brought at any previous sale."

The "remarkable" advance in prices recorded in this volume "was exemplified most strikingly" in the second Foote sale. The editor said: "Mr. Foote's copy of

Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield," first edition, cost him \$75 about ten years ago. It sold for \$340. His copy of "Paradise Lost," first edition with the first title-page, cost him \$65 about twelve years ago, and sold for \$525. His copy of Lamb's "Tale of Rosamund Gray," first edition, uncut, cost him only \$25 about twelve years ago, and sold for \$350. His copy of Herbert's "The Temple," one of two known copies of the first edition, cost him \$250 about eight years ago, and sold for \$1,050." The highest price realized during the year on a single lot was \$1,650, at which price George Washington's own copy of his "Official Letters," London, 1795, with his autograph on the title-page of each volume and his bookplate in the first volume was sold by Henkels in Philadelphia. These were the sensational prices of the season of 1894-95.

The year's record in this new volume is vastly different. A single sale realized more than all of the sales of the season thirty-three years ago. A single document brought nearly twenty-five times as much as all of the autographs and manuscripts then. If the record had been made on the same basis as that of Volume I, it would have required upwards of twenty volumes of the same size to print it. Instead of

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taking all items from \$5 upwards (and many at \$3 and over) the plan of selection this year has been (1) to bring together in logical order the various copies of works dispersed at public sale during the season, each with its price, (2) to select from these assembled lots—now over 10,000—as many as shall give a practical representative series-amounting to about 14,000-and (3) to repeat from descriptions given in the auctioneers' catalogs by bibliographers who have actually handled the copies in question the features which may be taken' to explain the variation which accompanying prices show-collation, binding, physical condition, all features whatsoever of consideration to bibliophiles, librarians, collectors, and dealers in rare books. With the intent here explained and of keeping the volume within convenient size, that is less than 1,000 pages, use has been made of such abbreviations as are in common practice. Space is further conserved thru substituting a key letter for the name of each sale which refers for full description to the list of sales as given, in order of occurrence, at the front of the book. Thus it has required the most careful calculation to condense in this volume of 807 pages a representative selection of items that fairly reflect the year's activity in the auction

The sales of 1926-27 mark a continuance of the popularity which recent years have indicated for historic Americana, first editions of English and American literature, including modern first editions, and especially the rare works of the great writers. Books designed and printed by the master printers, especially those supervised by Bruce Rogers, are in keen demand at advancing prices. The outstanding feature of the year's sales is the extraordinary demand and high prices brought by autograph letters, documents and manuscripts, literary and historical, American and foreign.

Mention can be made of only a few of the leading sales of the eighty-seven recorded here. These included selections from the Stevenson library at Vailima; the Simon J. Shwartz collections of early Louisiana and Napoleonic material; the Walter C. Noyes sporting library; early and modern first editions and manuscripts of English authors collected by Harry

Glemby; letters and documents from the James Gordon Bennett estate; American autographs collected by Theodore Sedgwick; books from the library of A. Edward Newton; the Destouches Papers relative to the American Revolution; manuscripts from various owners, including the Nelson-Trafalgar material in the Admiral Bayntun collection and manuscripts by Lafcadio Hearn, Roosevelt, and Lincoln, and letters by Washington and Robert Burns; the autograph collection of the late John H. Gundlach; the seventeenth and eighteenth century collection of English books formed by Lt. Col. Ralph H. Isham; the Tristram Coffin collection of historic letters and documents; the A. C. Goodyear collection of American and English autographs; the Heartman sale of February, 1927, including orderly books and items of Hale, Hamilton, and Washington interest; the library of Major W. Van R. Whitall; the seven session sale of the William C. Braislin American library; books from the libraries of Mrs. J. B. Finley, Kurt Lehman and others, including Richard Wagner manuscripts; the Richard Curle Conrad collection of inscribed first editions and manuscripts; and the Elkanah and Winslow Watson collection of letters and documents.

Among the books the most valuable items were in the works of early English literature, publications of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and modern first editions. Lovelace's "Lucasta," 1649, brought \$4,900; Herbert's "The Temple, 1633, \$2,200; Dr. Johnson's "London, a Poem," 1738, \$1,250; Blake's "Book of Thel," 1789, \$5,000; the Murray-Chew copy of "Gulliver's Travels," 1726, \$4,200; Keats's "Poems," 1817, \$3,300; Lamb's "Mr. H.," Philadelphia, 1813, \$1,500; Dickens's "Sketches by Boz," in original parts, 1837-39, \$1,000; Gissing's "Workers in the Dawn," 1880, \$1,175; Kipling's "Schoolboy Lyrics," Lahore, 1881, \$3,350; Fitzgerald's translation of the "Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám," first edition, \$3,200 and \$3,250; the Kelmscott Chaucer, \$1,000; and Hardy's "Dynasts," first issue, 1903-06-08, \$2,200. Among sporting books, Alken's "Sporting Notions," 1832, fetched \$1,100, "A Few Ideas," in original parts, 1828-29, \$1,150, and the "National Sports," 1821, \$1,600; Apperley's "Life of a Sportsman," first issue of 1842, \$1,040; Surtees's "Sporting Novels," in original parts, 1853-65, \$1,700; "The Annals of Sporting," 1822-28, \$2,000; and the American Turf Register, 1829-60,

\$1,850.

The sensational prices of the year were paid for autograph letters, documents and manuscripts. The highest price for a single lot for the season, \$51,000, was paid for the letter of July 12, 1776, signed by Button Gwinnett, John Hancock, Arthur Middleton, Robert Morris, Lewis and Reed, members of the Marine Committee of the Continental Congress. A few months later a "Third Bond" of Button Gwinnett brought \$28,000. Exclusive of Gwinnett items, a comparison of the highest individual price of the season with the highest previous price of the last five years revealed new high records of 22 Signers, the average increase being more than \$600. Robert E. Lee's farewell to his army in autograph fetched \$5,700; a Lincoln manuscript \$5,000; two Roosevelt manuscripts, \$1,900 and \$2,500 respectively.

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manuscript of Richard Wagner's "Das Rheingold," in pencil, sold for \$15,400. Among autograph material of favorite authors, Charles Lamb's Common Place Book realized \$6,900; a manuscript of Charlotte Brontë, \$5,800; a Keats letter, \$5,500; a Poe letter, \$3,600; a Gissing manuscript, \$1,700; a letter by Shelley, \$1,450; and a Trollope manuscript, \$1,025. A manuscript by Thackeray sold for \$5,700 and two series of intimate Thackeray correspondence, \$14,500 and \$15,000 re-Fine literary letters and spectively. manuscripts were in great demand, but the incomparably high prices were paid for historical material of early American interest.

It was possible thirty-three years ago to keep more or less closely in touch with market prices by carefully preserving priced copies of the more important auction catalogs and carefully indexing them for reference. This, however, was laborious and expensive, if well done. The "English Book Prices Current" which had been nine vears in existence when the "American Book Prices Current" was started was the beginning of a new era in bibliographical annals. It enabled the collector to take a hand in his own appraising and from that point his interest, confidence and determination rapidly increased. The rare book trade of England and America today owes its prosperity to this widespread intelligent interest in collecting, which is the natural result of changed and changing conditions.

The "American Book Prices Current" has undergone an evolution to meet new needs. It is an ideal reference work of its kind. It is well proportioned, a model typographically, compact, compiled and edited with skill, and grows more valuable each year as the sales at auction increase in volume. It gives a bird's-eye view of its field that can be obtained in no other way. It was a time saver thirty-three years ago; it is absolutely indispensable today.

De Quincey Diary Replica

THE DIARY OF THOMAS DE QUINCEY, 1803," reproduced in replica as well as in print from the original manuscripts has been published in this country by Payson & Clarke. It has a reproduction in color of a miniature of De Quincey.

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Current Rare Book Notes

Frederick M. Hopkins

THE "Letters to the Colvins" mainly about Stevenson and Keats, comprising 376 lots, were sold at the Anderson Galleries in two sessions on May 7, bringing \$9,820.50. Many good prices were realized but there were many bargains too. There has been so much autographic material of Joseph Conrad thrown upon the market in recent years that the saturation point seems at last to have been reached. This need not worry dealers who have large stocks of Conrad letters, for we are not likely to see more Conrad material come into the market for a long time. A few representative lots and the prices realized were the following: A.L.S. of Sir James Barrie, 4 pp., Garrick Club, Mar. 10, 1895, \$145; A.L.S. of Oscar Browning, 4 pp., 4to, in which, he denies the presence of Leigh Hunt at the burning of the body of Shelley and says that the poet's heart was carried home in a handkerchief, \$340. Of the many Conrad letters, the highest price, \$250, was paid for a three page letter without place or date in which the novelist writes about certain characters and events in his novels. The highest price of several Kipling letters, \$165, was paid for a one page letter, written at Rottingdean, August 5, 1900, clearing up a misunderstood point in connection with the "Alan Breck-Mulvaney" correspondence. An A.L.S. of Stevenson, 3 pp., 12mo., Davos, no date, on Oscar Wilde and other matters, fetched \$165.

THE dispersion of the stock of the George D. Smith Book Company, Inc., announced last week, will be continued by the sale of Part IV at the Anderson Galleries on May 21, 22 and 23, in a five session sale. This part consists of a great variety of miscellaneous books and some prints. There is quite a collection of bibliography which indicates that the working library of this famous bookshop is at last being scattered among booklovers. There are many rare and desirable books in this sale but little that suggests the former greatness of the collection of

rarities which "G.D.S." brought together. It has taken nearly a decade, with many sales at auction, to sell the great aggregation of rare books, autographs and manuscripts and prints which he left.

THE completion of the great Oxford English Dictionary is being celebrated at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, by an exhibition of dictionaries. The earliest books displayed are manuscripts of the "Psalterium Latino-Saxtenth century, icum" and Aldhelm's "De Virginitate," with Latin and old English vocabulary and comments. The next exhibit is a corrupt and fragmentary copy of Abbot Aelfric's "Latin-English Glossary," dated about 1200. After it there is a break of several centuries. The thread of development is then taken up by representatives of the fifteenth century: "Litel boke of doctrine for ionge gentil men," and Wynkyn de Worde's "Ortus Vocabularum," and of the sixteenth century with various English dictionaries, including Latin-French and Latin-Italian vocabularies, until the publication of a quaint volume in 1547 known to collectors as "Dictionary in Englyshe and Welshe moche necessar: to all suche Welshemen as will spedly learne the englyshe tongue." The first English dictionary did not appear until 1604. Next came John Ray's dictionary of county English, published in 1674, which represents the beginning of dialect dictionaries. Dr. Johnson's "Dictionary of the English Language" which appeared in 1755, was the real beginning of modern dictionary making. It is said that this dictionary has attracted more attention than any other in the entire exhibition.

IN connection with the movement to restore George Washington's library at Mount Vernon, the editors of the "Encyclopedia Britannica" have presented to the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union a set of the work to replace the original volumes of an identical encyclopedia owned by Washington. The accept-

ance of the set by the association is in line with its policy to restore Washington's-library either with the actual books owned by the first President, or, where this is impossible, by duplicate copies of the same edition. Washington's first effort to acquire an encyclopedia was thru a raffle. He was unsuccessful, as his laconic record in his diary shows: "By profit and loss in two chances in raffling for "Encyclopedia Britannica" which I did not win, I pound 4." Not long afterward, however, he ordered two sets of the work, one to be bound in boards and the other to be bound in gilt calf.

N the spring of 1828 Noah Webster put into the hands of his Connecticut printer the copy for his dictionary and a few months saw the completion of its printing and publication. In the centennial year of his dictionary, it is to be remembered that in the first edition of that work, numbering 2,500 copies, he listed, defined and exemplified nearly 80,000 words, nearly doubling what had previously been done by Dr. Samuel Johnson. Subsequent revisions and enlargements have served multitudes for a century. Other works have appeared, but to a surprising degree they have retained Webster's definitions and word forms. As has been remarked, his feat will never be duplicated. He worked alone. Now a dictionary is made by a large staff. Webster's versatility was not unlike that of Franklin. He could give half of his life to dictionary making and still be lawyer, editor, historian, politician, pamphleteer, school teacher, scientist and theologian.

A LAST-MINUTE effort is being made to keep the original manuscript of "Alice in Wonderland" in England. A small group of individuals, including a prominent English woman, has approached Dr. Rosenbach and asked him not to take the precious manuscript to America before they have had a chance to raise the necessary £15,400. In an interview Dr. Rosenbach said: "On this trip I have spent more than \$1,500,000 in England and Ireland alone for rare literary material." On his Irish trip he had something of the nature of an official reception. President Cosgrove welcomed him to

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LAST but not least: The PUBLISHERS' WEEK-LY in the third issue of every month will endeavor to give you up to the minute news about the rare book market which, it hopes, will help you develop a profitable extension of your business.

Dublin. Together they went to Trinity College, Dublin, which owns the most precious of all Irish manuscripts—the famous "Book of Kells," dated early in the ninth century. Not all Dr. Rosenbach's purchases are coming to America with him. The manuscript of Rousseau's "Nouvelle Heloise," which he bought for \$11,000 has been sold to a French collector who will take it to France.

FROM Maggs Brothers of London comes a catalog entitled "A Selection of Books, Manuscripts, Engravings and Autograph Letters, Remarkable for their Interest and Rarity, being the 500th Catalogue" issued by this famous London bookshop. This catalog measures 10 by 123/4 inches and contains 357 pages of text. Nearly every page of text has a full page illustration, some in two colors. Where nearly every item is one of distinction, space here will not permit of adequate mention. If the purpose of Maggs Brothers was to celebrate reaching their 500th cata-

log by printing one destined to be famous among booksellers catalogs, they have made a noteworthy success. In all its details this is the finest we remember to have seen and we are not likely to see its equal soon.

ROBERT BURNS'S homestead of Ellisland, six miles from Dumfries, where the poet wrote "Auld Lang Syne" and "Tam O'Shanter," has been bequeathed to the British nation by John Wilson Williamson of Westsidewood, Lanarkshire, who acquired it five years ago. It is the intention now to make this a shrine that will attract lovers of the Scottish poet from all parts of the world.

THE Museum of the City of New York has been assured of the collection of Dr. W. C. Gilley comprising books, prints, photographs and other material relating to the history of New York. Dr. Gilley is 76 years old and has devoted many years to bringing this collection together.

Good Second-Hand Condition

John T. Winterich

T last a test case! A copy of the first edition of Thornton Wilder's "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," published in the dear dim past of 1927, has made its appearance at auction. The date, it should be added for purposes of historical record, was April 25th; the place, the Anderson Galleries in New York. item-No. 495, Sale No. 2265, "The Library of Mrs. Eugenie K. Cunningham, With Other Properties"-was described, with unimpeachable accuracy, as "the first copy to be sold at public auction." These data seem to embrace most of the essential facts, unless, to make the record complete, one adds that the day of the week was Wednesday and the time of day afternoon, and that, by one of the normal coincidences of cataloging, Mr. Wilder's "Bridge" linked Oscar Wilde's "The Picture of Dorian Gray," illustrated by Henry Keen, with John Wilkes's "Essay on Woman." Just a moment—one detail appears to have been omitted from this chronicle. Oh, yes

-"The Bridge of San Luis Rey" brought \$26.

This figure, in itself, is possibly of no overwhelming significance. It simply means that someone wanted "The Bridge" badly enough to be willing to pay at least \$26 for it, and someone else not badly enough to care to pay more than \$25. One supreme interrogation remains unanswered, and will remain unanswered, your correspondent ventures to prophesy, until the Ten years from now spring of 1938. which will the rare book seller be saying: "Just think—a copy of that book could have been bought in 1928 for \$26!" or "Just think-in 1928 a copy of that book sold for as much as \$26!"?

All of which, of course, bears remotely, if at all, on the ultimate position in American literature which will be assigned to Mr. Wilder. Among contemporary writers, certainly, he holds an honored and merited prominence. If the present comment seems colored by a slight tint of irony,

may it be explained that, to garble the metaphor, the shaft is not directed at Mr. Wilder, but at the herd instinct among collectors? Mr. Wilder himself, one need not doubt, is rather more dazzled, and certainly much more annoyed, by this by-product of literary repute than anybody else. How long will his good-nature withstand the daily barrage of "Bridges" to be inscribed that is piled on, around and under his desk at Lawrenceville?

Anyway, your correspondent is emboldened to the extent of repeating his hope, even his belief, that there will some day be a collector's market for the first editions of William Vaughn Moody.

GUILTIER even than your correspondent of the high crime of prophecy is Frank J. Hynes, who conducts "The Bibliophile's Corner" every Friday in the Springfield (Mass.) Union. "How in elzevir," he asks, "can a man of modest means become a book collector, with limited first editions taking precedence over all others, and costing as much as four or six good novels, with rare items of one's favorite author quoted at three figures? The answer is buy the four or six good novels of young promising writers, and seek new favorites among them. The next question that arises is, who is going to be the Cabell, Cather, Hergesheimer or Stephen Crane of tomorrow? With unblushing candor, the writer of this article will have to confess to a penchant for prophesying the future gods of the literary firmament, and eagerly seeks opportunities to indulge this weakness. So, with a hey nonny no, and a fig for modesty, he pauses to don the prophet's

"The selection of the gods of the future is confined solely to American writers because there will be no difficulty met in procuring their first editions as they come from the publishers, and at the regular published prices. Another and far more important reason for confining the choice to Americans is the gratifying fact that there is more promise and vitality among this class than any other in the world today. First to be considered are the novelists who are interpreting, according to their various lights, the life, color and movement of our times, all artists, some of the first water, others showing potentialities of future greatness.

"One of the writer's prime favorites is Thomas Beer, who has a new novel appearing this spring; Louis Bromfield, our own Galsworthy; Donald Corley, heir apparent to the throne of Cabell; Roark Bradford, lineal descendant of Uncle Remus; Julian Green, the brilliant young Franco-American; Jacland Marmen, a budding young Conrad; Ernest Hemingway, already famous for his muscular exposition of expatriates; Eleanor C. Chilton, sorceress of beautiful images; Ruth Suckow, Glenway Wescott, Elizabeth M. Roberts, Julia Peterkin, Thornton Wilder,

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A revised edition of "Private Book Collectors in the United States and Canada" is in preparation to be issued next October. Information that will aid in the extension and revision of the list or any helpful criticisms will be gratefully received by the editor.

NOTE. The new edition will be limited exclusively to names of private collectors, and as far as possible will not include the names of dealers in old and rare books or of institutional librarians.

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Philip Wylie, Scott Fitzgerald and DuBose

Heyward. "Next come the poets, some singing songs of Araby, others lending serious ear to our daily rhythms. New England finds another interpreter worth mentioning in the same breath with Robert Frost in Raymond Holden. Nearly all critics would agree that 'The Spoon River Anthology' is the most distinguished volume of verse since Whitman's 'Leaves of Grass'; Donald Davidson, who owes not a little to Masters, is capable of matching 'Spoon River'; George O'Neil, conjuror of phrases; those rebellious youths, Marianne Moore and E. E. Cummings. 'Boy in the Wind' by George Dillon was hailed as the most remarkable first volume of verse since Edna St. Vincent Millay. The eloquent Lew Sarrett, Elizabeth Coatsworth, Louise Bogan and Allen Tate. Not the least significant of contributions to our American literature is being made by the Negro, as a study of the following shining talents will reveal: Eugene O'Neill has a dusky rival in Paul Green; Claude McKay in 'Home to Harlem' shows what tinsel flummery Van Vechten's 'Nigger Heaven' was; Countee Cullen sings in verse like Roland Hayes does in voice; Langston Hughes has discovered the deepest shade of indigo; Jean Toomer, brilliant exponent of expressionism; Walter White, Eric Walrond, Howard Odum and James Weldon Johnson. It would be interesting twenty years hence to peruse the auction records and dealers' catalogs and see how many in the above groups came through as collectors' items."

A COPY of "Poetry for Children, by the Author of 'Mrs. Leicester's School" (two volumes, 12 mo, London, 1809) is listed in the sumptuous 500th catalog of Maggs Brothers of London at £1500. The "author" happens to have been Charles and Mary Lamb, and, as Luther B. Livingston explained in his bibliography of Lamb, "it seems to be impossible to determine just which pieces were by Charles and which by Mary." "They are writing for money," the Lambs' friend Robert Lloyd wrote to his wife in Birmingham while the verses were in the making, "and a Book of Poetry for Children being likely to sell has induced them to compose one." "Poetry for Children" is, obviously,

among the notable nineteenth century rarissima. No copy was known until 1877.

Of considerable added interest is the fact that the Maggs catalog also lists a copy of the first American edition of the same work, published (in one volume) in 1812 "by West and Richardson, and Edward Cotton" of Boston. The title-page is virtually identical with that of the English edition, save for the imprint and the fact that "Leicester" is oddly misspelled "Liecester". "We are unable to trace a reference to the sale of a copy in any of the American auction sale records," the catalog states. The item is priced at £250.

Another item in the Maggs catalog which is of peculiar American interest is a copy of George B. Ives's translation of "The Centaur," by Maurice de Guérin, printed by Bruce Rogers at the Montague Press in 1915. One hundred and thirtyfive copies were printed, of which one hundred were for sale. On the last leaf of the Maggs copy is the following note written and signed by B. R.: "This copy, originally belonging to Mrs. Hutton Crater, is one of a few (twelve, I think) that I ruled by hand for my more intimate friends." The price is £125.

Auction Calendar

Monday and Tuesday afternoons and evenings, Wednesday afternoon, May 21st, 22nd and 23rd, at 2 o'clock and 8.15. Books and prints. Sold by order of the George D. Smith Book Co., Inc. (Items 1439.) The Anderson Galleries, 489 Park Ave., New York

Tuesday afternoon and evening, May 22nd, at 2:30 and 7 o'clock. Autograph letters and documents, being the collection of David M. Newbold of Philadelphia. (No. 1415; Items 488.) Stan. V. Henkels, 1110 Sansom St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Catalogs Received

- America. (No. 172; Part 2.) Goodspeed's Book Shop, 7 Ashburton Place, Boston, Mass.
 Americana, historical genealogical, cultural. (No. 99; Part 1; Items 1579.) Schulte's Book Store, Inc., 80 Fourth Ave., New York City.
 Americana, with certain titles on slavery, voyages and sea tales. (No. 17; Items 175.) William Todd,

- and sea tales. (No. 17; Items 175.) William Todd, Mt. Carmel, Conn.

 Americana and miscellaneous books. (No. 212; Items 154.) Shepard Book Co., 408 South State St., Salt Lake City, Ntah.

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